A-la-mode PHLEBOTOMY NO GOOD FASHION:

OR,

THE COPY OF A

LETTER

TO

Dr. *HUNGERFORD*;

Complaining of, and Inſtancing in the Phantaſtick Behaviour and Unfair Dealing of ſome *London* Phyſitians when they come to be Conſulted withal about Sick Perſons living at a Diſtance from them in the Country.

Whereupon a Fit Occaſion is taken to Diſcourſe of the Profuſe Way of *Blood-Letting* formerly unheard of, though now adays ſo mightily in Requeſt amongſt vs here in *England*.

By *RICHARD GRIFFITH* of *Richmond* in *Surrey*. M. D. Formerly Fellow of Univerſity Coll. in *Oxon*, and now Fellow of the Coll. of Phyſitians of *LONDON*.

Μὴ πλεῖν Ἀσίηνδε. Phocylid.

LONDON,
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MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM

TO THE READER.

READER:

I Know 'twill be expected, and 'tis, I confeſs, no more than what is Reaſonable, that I ſhould here give thee ſome Brief Account of the Cauſes inducing me to make theſe enſuing Lines Publick. If either I, or another man have received any Perſonal Injuries in Relation to our ſelves or our Profeſſions, what has the World to do with that? Thoſe, and thoſe only, are to be made Acquainted therewith, whoſe Particular Concernment it is to

Arbitrate, and do Acts of Juſtice between Man and Man. To raiſe a Hue and Cry for the Loſs of every Triffle, and ſet the Beacons a burning upon the Approach of every Petty and Inconſiderable Veſſel? would make but a ſtrange kind of Diſturbance in a Kingdom or Commonwealth: And no leſs degree of Madneſs may it appear to be, for Men of Private Condition to write Letters of Sad Complaints to one another about the Matters appertaining to their own Particular Affairs, and then to put them in Print when they have done, with an Epiſtle before an Epiſtle, and Solemn Appeals to the whole Body of the People to paſs their Verdict upon the Caſe, who are moſt like to be in the Right, and who in the Wrong.

And then to make a Deſcription at large how ſuch an one was taken Ill,

and

and what ſeveral Sorts of *Medicaments* were thought upon by one Phyſitian, which were all again diſallowed of by another; and ſo by that means, to ſwell up a Publick Narrative with little elſe beſide an Account of their own Fewds and Janglings, and Paltry Diſcontents may ſeem to be an Enterprize of juſt as weighty a Concernment as the other was before, and undertaken to every whit as Wiſe and Uſeful a Purpoſe: Becauſe if they do fall out or fall in, as the People are wholly unintereſſed in the Quarrel, ſo are they likely to be neither much the better nor the worſe which Party ſoever gets the Victory. Is it not uſual for moſt men whoſe Livelyhood comes in after the ſame Manner to Wrangle and Squabble, and render one another as Deſpicable as they can, to the end that thoſe who appear to be the Braveſt Champions in the Encounter may be able to bear away the

Greateſt Share of the Employment to their own Side? And is it not enough for the Spectators to be ſet a Laughing at them for their Foolery when they do ſo? But that Proclamation muſt be made for all others that would be apt to paſs by without taking the leaſt Notice of what had happened, to be invited to come in and deride them likewiſe.

Theſe two, as they lie the faireſt in the Way, ſo are they the moſt Material of all other Objections beſide, that I can think of; and could we but get clear of them, I ſee no great Reaſon to the contrary, but that the whole of what has been Propounded, did it not fail in ſome Points relating to the Manner of its Performance, might be looked upon as Paſſable enough; but that is a Thing not at all to be either Diſputed or Juſtified by us here in this Place; but

but rather to be left to the more impartial Determination of ſuch, as ſhall be willing to be at the Trouble throughly to examine it.

As for what concerns the former of theſe, I have only this to plead on my own behalf, That notwithſtanding the Inſtances put may indeed ſeem to have a Reſpect, but to one or two particular Perſons at the moſt. Yet the Reaſon of the thing is of a much larger Extent as comprehending under it no leſs than a whole Community of Men; there being ſcarce a Countrey Phyſitian now living in *England*, but who either has been already, or elſe at ſome time or other in probability may come to be involved therein; and therefore what has been affirmed of one or two, may in a Senſe proper enough be applied to them all in General: And then the Benefit ariſing from the *Memorandum's* given,

given, can never be excepted againſt as reſtrained unto a few.

And albeit it be ſcarcely to be imagined for any actually Reſident in the Country to be ſo invincibly Stupid, as not to be convinced before-hand, of the Truth of what they ſhall find aſſerted, either through their own Experience, or the Complaints of thoſe they at ſome times or other may happen to have had Communication withal. Yet ought it not however to be eſteemed of as loſt Labour, to be confirmed in the Belief of what they knew to be ſo, by the concurrent Teſtimony of others beſides themſelves. The doing ſo friendly an Office may ſerve as an Additional Corollary to their Heap, and be uſeful to them, if for no other purpoſe, yet at leaſtwiſe to excite their Care and awaken their Diligence for the preventing ſuch Inconveniencies for time to come,

come, as without it might possibly have been so much the more apt to have befallen them.

But as for such young Gentlemen, who are in a manner unacquainted with the World, and who living still in the Universities, have both their way of Employment and Place of Residency as yet wholly to choose: Such an Allarm as this may prove to be of much greater Consequence to them; for they by making a due Improvement of so Seasonable an Advertisement, may consider the better how to dispose of their own Affairs, and not be ensnared in a Noose all on the sudden, they never so much as dreamt of, as thousands others have been before them, to the utter undoing both of themselves and Families, as might be easie to shew how and which way; but that all is so manifestly discovered in the Sequel of this Tract.

Tract. I ſhall therefore make the more haſte to the other Objection as yet behind.

And here again, though the Examples produced may be but one or two for Number, yet are they virtually as many as the Inhabitants diſperſed up & down the whole Nation; who might all of them have been ſerved with the very ſame Sauce, had they but fallen under the ſame circumſtances the others did, and but ſent for the ſame or ſuch-like Wiſe and Faithful Counſellors to have afforded them their Aſſiſtance, or may yet in good time, when ever the like Difficult Occaſion happens to preſent it ſelf: And then neither can the Uſefulneſs of what has been Obſerved be manelyable to Exception upon the latter Score. Becauſe all ſuch as in ſucceeding Times ſhall chance to fall ill of any Dangerous Diſtempers have an *I-*

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em given them, if they pleaſe to take
t, of divers Material Points; which o-
herwiſe perchance they would not
ave been altogether ſo well aware of.
As firſt of all to take it into their Serious
Conſideration, Whether or no it may
ot be much better to make a Begin-
ing with a *London* Phyſitian, if it muſt
ome to that at laſt, as a ſurer means
o engage him to the greater Faithful-
neſs and Circumſpection in what he
Undertakes.

Secondly, Whether having conſult-
d with a Neighbour at the Firſt, it may
ot be adjudged convenient to Adhere
o much the cloſer to his Directions.

Thirdly, Or if it ſhall be held meet
o ſeek out for an Aſſiſtant, that may be
artaker of the ſame Cares: It may
ot be good Advice to make choice of
Perſon as well remarkable for Hone-
ſty,

ſty, as Learning; it being the moſt likely for ſuch an one to be Contriver of the leaſt Miſchief, as well as to be in a Capacity of doing the greateſt Good. My Meaning is to have it well weighed, whether ſuch men as cannot be denied to have a Competent Stock of Learning in their Heads, but withal are known to have a great deal more of Pride and Malice, and other ſuch-like Naughty Principles in their Hearts, may not be apt to pull down more with one Hand, than they are able to ſet up again with both, and ſo prove in the Iſſue inſtead of Helpers to be the greateſt Hinderers of all.

Or Laſtly, to have it debated, Whether or no ſome earneſt Injunction to deal clearly and uprightly in the Matters they are intruſted withal, without either Prejudice or Humour, or Affectation of Vain Glory, or out of any other

other By-reſpect whatever, beſides purely the good and wellfare of the Patient they are ſent for to Conſult about, may be e're a whit unſeaſonable. I know ſome will be apt to ſmile at this laſt, as ſuppoſing it to be a meer Folly to go about to oblige thoſe by Obſecrations and Intreaties, that could never be prevailed upon by any Senſe of Honour and Conſcience, and the Engagements they have ſometimes taken: But then they are ſuch as have neither Conſcience nor Honeſty, to which an Obligation (if to any thing) ought to be faſtned; that we have been all this while ſpeaking about, and ſo they are ſoon anſwered.

Beſides, 'Tis none of the ſmalleſt Obligations they lye under, to treat one another civilly as oft as they meet together in Conſultation; which Rule, how well 'tis obſerved, the many Slan-

ders,

ders, Backbitings, and ſometimes open Reproaches, which are wont to fall out upon that Occaſion, do more than ſufficiently witneſs: And then let any one ſhew me a Reaſon why thoſe that are falſe to their Engagements in one Reſpect, ſhould not as well be the ſame to them in another, whenever it ſuits with their Intereſt to be ſo? And though, 'tis true, a good Man may do well for the Sake of Virtue alone, and though he ſhould have no Superviſor at all to overſee him in his Actions: 'Tis neither impoſſible nor unlikely but that the Bad may receive the Sureſt Check of all to put a ſtop to the fulleſt Career of their evil Practices from ſome Accidental Conſiderations; ſuch as is the Fear of Shame, and Cenſure, and Publick Report: And if they have any feeling left them what the meaning of theſe things is, 'tis ſcarcely imaginable but that they ſhould have the Faculty

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ſomething the more quickened and rub-
ped up, when they perceive their Do-
ngs pryed into, and had in Suſpition
by other men.

Some other things there are, which were all people but ſo Charitable or ingenuous as to take in the ſence they were either intended or did naturally import, would ſtand in little need of an Apology, they are ſo Innocent and Harmleſs; as namely, the Inſiſting for ſo long a time together upon the Sick-neſs of a ſingle Perſon; the ſeeming Reflections that are made in ſome Paſ-ſages upon the Female Sex, and the cauſe of Scandal offered to all Phyſitians in general, by laying ſo foul Aſperſi-ons to the Charge of ſome of their Par-ticular Members. But in regard there are ſo many turbulent Spirits in the World, apt to cavil at, and pervert the Meaning of almoſt every thing they meet withal, that is but capable of a wrong Interpretation as well as a right.

I ſhall, for their Sakes, and for the pre venting any ill Conſequences tha might be apt to enſue upon their di ſtorted Commentaries, crave leave to add a few words for the Vindication o them alſo.

In anſwer to the Firſt, of which i may not be altogether unworthy the Noting, that the Compoſing huge large Volumns, filled with nothing elſe but the Obſervations that have been made by Phyſitians upon the variou Eſtates of ſeveral Diſeaſed People, and the Remedies applyed to each of them together with the different Succeſſes and Events that have followed thereupon was never (that I could yet hear of) looked upon by any (though the moſt Critical in their Judgments) as any mat ter of Abſurdity at all: And then wha juſt Reaſon can there be aſſignable, why the ſame Favour ſhould not be allowed of, when an *Example* comes forth un accompanied and ſingle by it Self, e

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ſpecially ſeeing ſuch a Caſe is like to be ſo much the more narrowly ſifted into, and ſet forth with all its Circumſtances; whereas many things of a like Nature thronging in a Croud together, cannot be attended to with an equal Regard, but muſt, and will of neceſſity prove an hinderance to one another.

Whence it often happens, that what might very well have deſerved a more ſerious and thorough Diſquiſition, comes to be huddled over with too much Brevity; which in all Caſes is no other than the immediate Parent of Obſcurity, and the Grandmother of Confuſion and Miſtakes, and by that means a Neceſſity is occaſioned of making Repetition of the ſame things ſeveral times over; as we find it in divers Authors, which had they been handled more copiouſly at the firſt, and debated upon with that deliberation which the matter might have required, might have ſerved but once for all; and thoſe o-

ther Tautologies which we meet with al ſo often afterwards, have very well been ſpared.

And then in the Second and Third Places, for the Reaſon is one and the ſame to both; becauſe ſome few of a Kind or Profeſſion have been repreſented as Blameworthy; therefore, to imagin that either any others, or all the reſt of thoſe Orders, who neither are, nor ever were intended to be ſuch, ſhould find themſelvs agrieved thereat, is juſt ſuch another wild and fantaſtical Surmiſe, As to ſuppoſe that all the Individual Perſons belonging to any Community whatever, ſhould be either Wiſe, or Learned, or Good; if that could but be made out for an Hypotheſis to build upon, then indeed the taxing of any one of the whole Rank, might well be interpreted an inſuring of them all: As they ſay it fares with the Strings of ſome Muſical Inſtruments in a Room together, if wound up to an

an equal height; touch one, and you would ſtir them all: But ſo long as the contrary is known to be moſt undeniably true, it can be no Diſparagement to the beſt Societies in the World to have it ſpoken, becauſe ſo eaſily to be proved that there have been, are, and ever will be ſome Faulty perſons amongſt them. Nay, 'tis ſo far from being any Diminution at all to the Worth of thoſe that are in no wiſe guilty, that it commends it but the more, and ſets it off with ſo much the purer a Luſtre: Becauſe had there been no Vice, there would have been no Virtue; and were it not for the Badneſs of ſome Men and Women in the World, there could never poſſibly have been any Good. Nay the very World it ſelf, ſetting aſide Monſters and Prodigies, and other ſuch-like Deformities of Nature, could never in any ſound Sence have been ſaid to have been made perfect; becauſe this Compariſon above, gives Beauty and Orna-

ment to moſt of the things that are found in it, which would have neither the one nor the other if conſidered in themſelves. VVe account ſome Perſons to be Diſcreet, and Juſt, and Temperate, but they are the Fools, and Knaves, and Debauches that make them ſuch. And thoſe very Ladies which are wont to Attract the Eyes, and engage the Affections of almoſt every one they come aneer, little think how much they ſtand indebted to the Blemiſhes of ſome of their own Sex for the place they hold in the good Opinion of their Admirers. And therefore I can ſee no reaſon why any VVomen, whoſe Diſpleaſure is worth the ſerving, ſhould pretend to take any thing amiſs that can be ſaid of them as deſerve to hear ill. Not only becauſe there can be no great hurt in Slandering any one with a matter of Truth, but upon the very account of their own Intereſt: For if they are ſuch as moſt VVomen would be thought to

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be, and I, for my part, am willing to believe they are, unleſs the Faults and Miſdemeanours of thoſe who are their Foils, had by ſome means or other happened to have been rendred conſpicuous: Thoſe very Qualifications, upon the Score of which they are wont ſo highly to value themſelves, had never in the leaſt meaſure come to have been taken notice of.

And this might very well have ſufficed for the anſwering each of the two Particulars at once, might it have been but applied in the ſame proportion it bears to both of them alike. But in regard ſo much has been ſpoken in order to the excuſing a word or two, and that when let fall but by the by only; becauſe a little ſlenting upon that Sex, which is ſo much given to take Exceptions: Whereas the very Scope and Drift of the whole Deſign has been for no other end (as the Title Page truly enough ſeems to intimate) then

the expoſing the Unworthy Dealing of ſome Phyſicians to publick Scorn and Contempt. I cannot but hold my ſelf obliged in the beſt ſort I can, to beſpeak the favourable Opinion of thoſe Learned and Worthy Perſons, who though wearing the ſame Titles, and inhabiting the ſame Place with them, do yet (I believe) as much abhor and deteſt their *Leiger du Main* Tricks, as either I my ſelf or any other man; and I do hope, and reſt pretty well aſſured, That as there has not been any one Syllable of ought ſpoken by me intended to their Prejudice: So that neither it will be ſo underſtood by them. I do from my Heart believe the Generality of Phyſicians now living in *London*, to be the moſt Able, Learned, and every way well qualified Perſons of any that are to be found again of the Profeſſion throughout all *Europe* beſide, as they have ever had the Honour, and that moſt deſervedly, to be accounted

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of. The more then the pity, that theſe their good Parts ſhould be abuſed to ſo ill purpoſes, by ſome rotten and corrupt Members amongſt them; and ſo much the more need (one would think) there ſhould be to ſet ſome Marks of diſtinction to difference the one from the other. And if I out of a Fit of Zeal for the publick Good, rather than any great depth of Judgment, have been ſo little mindful of my own private Intereſt, as to ſet a helping hand to the promoting that which I conceived to be ſo honeſt an Undertaking; I hope no good Man will ſee any juſt reaſon wherefore to be offended with me for it. I may perchance deſerve ſomething of his Pity for intermedling in a Brangling Buſineſs, which might have been much better for me, to have paſſed over in Silence, but ſurely nothing at all of his Diſpleaſure. Particular Premiſes can never include any ſufficient *medium*, for the warranting any Univerſal Concluſions.

ſions. No more can the vicious Inclinations of ſome few of a Profeſſion affix any juſt matter of Ignominy upon the Reputation of thoſe that are good; But enough of this has been already ſpoken to under the former Head, which if it ſhall not be adjudged Satisfactory, I have only one ſhort Requeſt to make to them to whom it is not, and that is, That they would be pleaſed but to make the Caſe their own: as to ſpeak the Truth of it, 'Tis impoſſible for any one rightly to apprehend the Concernments of another man, unleſs he do ſo.

Let ſuch but imagine themſelves to have been at a great deal of Coſt, and Pains, and *Expence* of Time more valuable than the other two; to have fitted and qualified themſelves for an Imployment for the Service of their Country; and when they had uſed their utmoſt Diligence in order to the attaining that *End*, and had at laſt pitched upon a place of Abode every way commo-

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dious to their liking: How would they ~~whistle~~ relish it to have a Malepert man of their own Rank (and ſome years their Junior in that College, whoſe very Statutes obliges each Member belonging to it, to a civil reſpectfulneſs one towards another) without other provocation or Cauſe of diſtaſt given him, other than what proceeded from the Malignity and Depravedneſs of his own cankred Nature;) ſally forth amongſt their Patients, and there beſtir himſelf the beſt he could to poſſeſs their minds with wrong Notions of their Diſtempers and prejudices againſt all rightful ways of Cure taken by them, and all this out of a wanton Humour to bring them into a Diſrepute with their Neighbours, and to convert the good opinion they might otherwiſe have been apt to have had of them into a meer Loathing and Abhorrency.

Nay, let me yet put the Queſtion a little further home, and ask them, Whether

ther or no, if they had right on their ſide, and were able to make it appear ſo to the World, they would forbear to uſe the only means that was left them, for the juſtifiing themſelves and Actions, for fear of giving offence to ſuch as had no juſt reaſon to take any; and ſo out of I know not what ſcrupulouſneſs of fancy ſuffer their own Credits, and the lives of their Patients, ſo oft as the ſame Project came to be renewed, to lye at the mercy of thoſe who never had, nor were never like to have any regard at all to either. If they ſay they ſhould not, as 'tis moſt probable they will, then neither am I by their own confeſſions to be blamed for what I have done; but if they ſhould, though the groundleſs ſcrupuloſity of ſome be no warrantable Rule for others to take example by; I care not much however, for this one time, if I do ſubmit my ſelf to the moſt rigorous ſeverity even of their own Award; and ſo let them cenſure me as they

they think fit. And now I have made this bold challenge, I cannot foreſee that ſo great hazard I am like to run thereby; becauſe to be a Sot and a Dunce and an utter Ignoramus are the higheſt of Titles, the learned Rabbies, I have been endeavouring to decypher by their good would ever allow us poor Country Phyſitians to be in any capacity of attaining unto; as the conſtant ſeries of their deportment towards us, and ſometimes their diſcourſes bolted out occaſionally make evidently enough to appear: And then I'd fain know what ſiniſter Accident that can poſſibly befal us in any undertaking we ſet about, can render our Perſons more contemptible or our Condition much worſe. But be it as it will, whatever may become of me and my ſmall concernments when the buſineſs is brought to the upſhot; I do not altogether deſpair but that (as it falls out with the unhappieſt Projectors) ſome benefit may chance

chance to redound to others, though I my ſelf ſhould be made a loſer thereby, and that will be the compenſation for the prejudice I am put to ſuſtain, every way as ample as I deſire.

It was, for ought I know, and, which is ſomewhat more, am apt to believe, and now and then when I think upon it ſeriouſly to pleaſe my ſelf (I confeſs) with the conceit thereof) prove an occaſion of the ſaving much uſeful Blood and Spirits in the Bodies of a multitude of good people, who upon the reading over the Arguments contained in this little thing (though proſecuted I muſt needs acknowledge with weakneſs enough) ſhall not be altogether ſo forward to lend an ear to every plauſible pretenſion, as otherwiſe they would have been.

And 'tis not altogether impoſſible, but that ſome who by one chance or other may happen to peruſe theſe Lines, and are withal conſcious to themſelves of having deſerved the Character they

ſhall find beſtowed upon them (though 'tis very likely withal they'd ne're be brought to acknowledg ſo much) may when they perceive their Actions taken notice of, be induced ſo far forth to reform their manners, as not to inſult over their equals in every thing but pride and conceitedneſs, with half that dominering Lordlineſs that formerly they were wont. And it be but out of fear that as the thing is come to be commonly known, ſo the next time they come to act it in publick, it may as publickly be laughed at.

And to ſpeak the plain Truth of the matter, though I all along make my ſelf a party principally concerned; the occaſion that has been offered is admitting of no other way of management. Or at leaſtwiſe this being the beſt that my dull and barren fancy was able to ſuggeſt to me; yet the main Scope I have from firſt to laſt intended, has layen couched under theſe two particulars before-mentioned, which if I obtain, I ſhall have

had my end; but if I miſs of it, though every thing elſe ſhould ſucceed that may ſeem deſireable upon any, or indeed all other accounts beſides whatever, it will ſignifie but very little or nothing to me. But I both muſt, and ſhall for ever look upon my ſelf to have been totally diſappointed.

As for what concerns the lateneſs of this Publication, ſo long after the occaſion given: I have only one ſhort word to alledge in the vindication of my ſelf, which is, That though I had finiſhed what I have now written timely enough yet there being ſome things contained in it of a reflecting nature, which could not be avoided. And I being then engaged in a buſineſs, the moſt important of all others to the concernments of Humane Life; which was not to be medled withal and any thing like Controverſie at the ſame time. I was in a manner compelled to give reſpit to the one, till I had fully accompliſhed the other.

Farewell.

SIR,

HAving been lately informed of a pleasant passage befalling you in your practice concerning your Patient. Sir *H. F.* I have made bold to be a little curious in enquiring into the truth thereof; and so much the rather, because the *Catastrophe* excepted in very many particulars, more than a little resembling a Case I have had of my own.

I was given to understand how, that after Sir. *H. F.* upon a Fall he had received near *Windsor*, was committed to your care. A Physician from *London*, by the importunities of some friends of his, was brought down to visit him. How that the many Arguments of their Discourse insisted upon almost all the way they came, was to bewail the lamentable Condition of the unfortunate Gentleman, whose hard hap it had been to catch his harm so far distant from *London*; the only place (as they conceived) where the means of Relief in that and the like dangerous misadventures was to be sought for;

That his Lady was much to be blam'd for not looking out for better advice ſooner, and for having ſo little reaſon with her, as to relie upon the fumbling skill of a poor Countrey Doctor.

How that the Learned Man, ſo ſoon as ever he was carried into the Parlour, was obſerved bitterly to inveigh againſt the irregularity of your Preſcriptions; without ſo much as taking time to ſee any, or hear any account given of what had paſſed before his coming thither; moſt magiſteriouſly to have iſſued forth his orders for the taking away of thirty Ounces of Blood from your Patients Arm, Peremptorily alledging there was an abſolute neceſſity for ſo doing: The only poſſible ſcruple remaining with him, being this; whether or no ſuch wholeſom advice might not come ſomewhat of the lateſt, through the ſupine neglect of thoſe fooliſh people who had been all this while about him to ſo little purpoſe; as the uſual pretence upon ſuch occaſions is wont to be with all the Fraternity of like Principles with himſelf; ſo that if the Buſineſs had come to have ſucceeded well, the credit of the Action, had been wholly his, if otherwiſe, the Odium and Diſgrace thereof had fallen to your ſhare. A pretty trim Invention this, and a cheap way of gaining glory to ones

ones ſelf; becauſe hazarding nothing at all the mean while for it; unleſs it be a Patients life; or another man his good name; or ſo forth: A couple of petty and inconſiderable things.

I hear, how that the Lady was a little ſurpriz'd at ſuch unwonted confidence; and conſidering with her ſelf; that he had loſt Thirty Ounces already, was not altogether ſo forward as was expected, to give entertainment to this ſo ſudden a motion; whereupon ſhe was ſeverely chidden for her waywardneſs; and given further to underſtand, that unleſs his commands were punctually obſerved, her Husband was, in reaſon, to be looked upon as no other than a loſt man; and ſo ſhe might do even as ſhe pleaſed, chuſe whether ſhe would have his Life ſaved when it was offered, or not: But ſhe, it ſeems, being a Perſon to be ſwayed with ſome thing elſe, beſides paſſionate words, and big looks, remained utterly diſatisfied with theſe his haſtie concluſions, and abſolutely refuſed to follow his directions, unleſs hapning to be ſeconded by your approbation: that the Doctor was bemadded thereat, threatned a departure out of Town, at break of day, next morning, (pretending I know not what urgency of occaſions) unleſs your more early arrival there hapned to prevent him. All

which ſubterfuges not ſerving his turn; but you appearing beyond expectation, and both diſliking and confuting his councels, and they thereupon being rejected as unſafe; I am credibly informed the Gentleman to have been reſtored to ſome memory again, and as well recovered of his Malady (all circumſtances duly conſidered) as would reaſonably have been expected.

If it be ſo, Sir, I heartily congratulate your ſafe eſcape, from this notable undermining ſtratagem, that was ſo artificially contrived, for the blowing up of your reputation, and glad I am with all my heart, that the inventer thereof (be he who he will) was ſo luckily catched in the ſame trap, he had deſigned for another. Truly ſuch a facetious ſtory as this is, deſerves to be laught at right heartily; becauſe ending Commically: but had the Plot taken effect, and the blame of the miſcarriage lighted upon your head, together with the loſs of your Patients life to boot, I'de fain know, how either you, or the wiſeſt man living in your ſtead, could have been able to have holpen your ſelves.

Give me leave to tell you, Sir, that you have run a kind of deſperate hazzard; becauſe happening to be brought of by a meer contingency, all the ſecurity you had being bottomed upon the ſlight Baſis, of but a ſingle

gle womans opinion: And where there is one in that or a like caſe, the deciſion of the point being referred to their arbitrement, would have given it on your ſide, there are five hundred would have inclined to the oppoſite party; and have been apt to have cryed out without any further examination of the matter, that the doctor from *London* had ſaid it, and it muſt needs be ſo: Ay indeed muſt it, Ay and all that, and a great deal more; and this had paſſed for an argument as irrefragable as demonſtration it ſelf: as good have ſet your ſelf againſt a Torrent with a pitchfork, as to have preſumed to have muttered the leaſt ſillable in oppoſition againſt it. But all muſt have been done, and you muſt e'ne have ſuffered: There had been no remedy: For if he had dyed, no body had killed him but you, for not cauſing him to be let blood in a ſufficient quantity ſooner. But if he had happened to ſurvive, then the Gentleman from *London*, had ſhewn himſelf an incomparable Artiſt and performed an unexemplified cure, not only ſaved a man's life, that's a matter of ſmall moment with ſuch rare Practicioners, but what is ſomewhat more dificult, reſtored him to his ſenſes and memory again: which without the interventions of his happy aſſiſtance had been irrecoverably loſt. Then had not

only the Patient himſelf, but his Dependents and Family been indebted for their preſervation, to this moſt excellent perſon: And it had been an obligation of ſo endearing circumſtances, as never to have admitted of a plenary recompence by any poſſible acknowledgments, that could for ever after that have been paid him: Then had he rode back to *London* in moſt triumphant maner, vaunting and boaſting in all the companies he had come into of the happy reliefe he had given to one in the country, juſt at the very inſtant of being caſt away, through the ill mannagery & want of skill of one that paſſed for a Doctor amongſt them. And then the Country Doctors, they muſt have been frumped and ſcoffed at; juſt as the poor Curates are wont to be at an Act or Commencement, and forced to look ſimply, ſo of't as they had chanced to meet with any that had been diſpoſed to have been pleaſant with them. And now what a ſad and woful condition are you, and I, and a hundred more of us in, who by the inauſpiciouſneſs of the Planets we were born under, are condemned to take up our Abodes in Country villages, to be thus always liable to ſuch diſadvantages as theſe are, and left to the mercy of a part of extravagant hotheads, to put tricks upon us at their pleaſure.

He

He that is a Heathen in his principles, and a meer Atheiſt in his practice, in fine, that is either a fool or a knave, or both or all together, whether he be Emperick, or Chirurgion, or Apothecary, or Legal Phyſician, if coming but fron *London*, and dignified with the Title of a City Doctor, he carries all before him; and is at liberty to make havock of us, with the turning of a finger, in ſpight of all the defence in nature, we are capable of making for our ſelves; Unleſs through their own hair-brained, raſh actions they happen to be plunged into a manifeſt abſurdity; as in the caſe but newly recited; and another of mine parallel to it as ſhall be ſhewed anon.

As thus; the evidence of the matter appears as tranſparent as Chryſtal, and he who has but half an eye in his head, cannot chuſe but be made ſenſible of it, at the very firſt bluſh; All we who live near the City, muſt unavoidably upon the declining condition of our beſt Patients, evermore be Subject to have ſome or other of them to be brought down upon us. The new Phyſitian is like the riſeing Sun; every ones eye is caſt upon him for ſome Ray of comfort: his preſence always brings hope along with it, at leaſt, though it ſhould afford nothing more, And what ever falls from his mouth, hit or miſs,

is usually esteemed of by the company as little less then Oracle. The women never fail to gather about such a one at his first arrival; whose hearts as they are ever tender, so are their tongues talkative: And I pray, Good Sir cry they, what may your Judgment be in this matter, life or death? we have had a restless night here: such and such things have been administred before your coming: we wish they may not have been too hot nor too cold: Do you believe them to have been all proper? Ah! this is luscious language to a proud heart and a haughty mind! this feeds the swelling humor till it be ready to burst again, and this flyblows the mans head with conceitedness, so as to make him utterly forgetful of his duty both to himself and others: For whilst the bladder of pride is thus bloated up, he takes himself for some other Creature then what really he is, and looks upon all his equals with pity and disdain. And now he is put into the way his *Genius* so much inclines him to, he may very well be let alone to act his own part: For seeing others have been forward to declare the good liking they have of him, he is resolved not to be over-bashful in setting a value upon himself; he domineers, and he dictates, and his sentences are all irreversable, admitting of neither disquisition, alteration nor appeal; but

but muſt all be ſubmitted to with a blind obedience, and an implicite faith: and nothing in fine can ever be performed regularly, and as it ought, unleſs happening to agree with the exact platform of this wiſe contrivance. There is no tutor inſults more imperiouſly over his young pupil, then ſome that I could name, do over thoſe they are ſuper-induced to conſult withal: eſpecially if they find any of the family peeping in upon them to make obſervation of their Actions: for then ſomething muſt be ſpoken in a key higher then ordinary: Some latent Error upon a more ſerious review diſcovered, and the pen ſnatched out of the others hand to mend it withal, and if it be but on purpoſe to ſhew who gives check to the conſultation, and where alone the Legiſlative Power lies.

'Tis true if he be a man of uprightneſs & integrity, as there is a number of ſuch in this City, to give them their juſt due: then he either Juſtifies what was done formerly, if in his conſcience he believes the Phyſitian to have proceeded according to the rules of art. But if otherwiſe: he fairly debates the matter with him, and labours either to convince him by making it appear where the miſtake lay, and is willing upon your reaſons ſhewn

by

by the other to be overcome by him: and brought over to his opinion.

But if on the other hand as is not seldome seen (and we have already suppoſed) he proves to be diſingenious and baſe, and devoide of that moral honeſty, which all Phyſitians by their education, and ſome by vertue of their relation to particular Societies are more eſpecially obliged to, as there is no profeſſion of men whatever, but muſt of neceſſity have ſome that are bad amongſt them. Then he projects all the ways he can how to ſalve his own credit, & conſign the other over to the condemning power of the giddy multitude, who as they are always ready to take up the moſt malicious ſlanders upon Truſt without ſo much as examining the reaſonableneſs of them, whether likely to be true or falſe; ſo are they as induſtrious to improve a calumny to the utmoſt; and help it forward with all the agravating circumſtances, it can poſſibly admit of.

He uſually tels them for his part, that truly he could have wiſhed it had been his fortune to have been ſent for ſooner. Several things being proper to be done at the beginning, which are not altogether ſo ſeaſonable at the full height of a diſtemper, much leſs at what time Nature is almoſt overcome; but that which he preſcribes is the only thing

thing as the caſe then ſtands. poſſible to do the party good, and if that will not, he knows nothing elſe can.

There are degrees of wickedneſs, and if the man be not fully fledged therein, it may be this reprehenſion ſhall ſerve the turn, which though but gentle in compariſon of the unmercifulneſs of ſome others, yet (if believed) is of ſufficient validity to clip the wings of his Antagoniſts (for ſuch he eſteems and ſuch he takes him to be,) ſo as to keep him from ever ſoaring over-high in the good opinion of his neighbours. But now if he be bent to be miſchievous indeed, either through the propenſity of his own nature or prompted to be ſo by the inſtigation of others: Then he goes a down right way to work, and finds fault with every kind of thing right or wrong that has been made uſe of, before his coming: And all the queſtions he makes are rais'd for no other intent whatever, but meerly to deprave.

Was the Patient let blood, why what cools or chils him? There being more need of Addition then Subſtraction, of pouring freſh into his veins (could it conveniently be effected) rather then letting any out, becauſe in this caſe the diſtemper is to be carried off by fervent and a more quick Circulation of the blood, whereas now it Reſtagnates and Suffocates

ſocates the man, who might have done as well as any one in *England*, had he not moſt unfortunately happen'd to have been abuſed and over-tampered withal.

But if there was no blood at all taken away, why then the caſe becomes clearly altered, and that was the only Remedy Imaginable, & ought to have been celebrated upon any condition; but now 'tis too late, the humors being all quarred and ſetled about the Noble parts, which might eaſily have been drawn away by Revulſion when time was. And then he gives a grave nod with his head, and a ſhrug with his ſhoulder as intimating ſome worſe buſineſs then all that to lye behind, which he good man out of meer modeſty and pity to the others ignorance, is heartily aſhamed to make mention of.

If he finds he hath been purged pretty titely, that has utterly dejected Nature: if but gently, then it has done the more miſchief, by ſtirring the humors only, and not throughly removing them, if moderately and between both extreames, then 'twas wholly improper, and ſhould not have been done at all, but he ſhould rather have been ſweated or vomited, or any other courſe taken with him then that which was, and the like is to be ſaid indeed of any other application whatever. All which, and a great deal more, being

moſt maliciouſly ſuggeſted by him, and with the ſame Rancorouſneſs of mind entertained by the Goſſips of the place, (I ſpeak in the general, & would have my words taken as they are intended, in reference to the whole *Engliſh* Nation) who are always ready at hand to make their obſervations how matters go; Away they run with it immediately, and happy is that Woman that can make the firſt ſtep over her neighbours threſhold, to carry a Report of theſe lamentable Tidings; how that the Doctor from *Lond.* is juſt now come, and ſays there might have bin an othergets courſe taken with the Patient than was; & had he bin but ſent for ſooner, he could moſt undoubtedly have ſaved his Life. Upon which, without farther proof, taking all for granted to be as 'tis related, they both lift up their hands to Heaven, and bleſs themſelves, that one who pretends any thing to Phyſick, ſhould be ſo ſtrangely overſeen; & yet now they think on't again, who could ever have expected any other from him; for they, for their parts, never took him for any other then a pittiful ſhallow-brain'd man; And this puts them in mind how ſuch a one, and ſuch a one died under his hands, and they lay much after the ſame manner too, and none of them were blooded neither, and truely they believe them to have all gone after the ſame

way

way, and to have been meerly deſtroyed for want of an able Phyſitian.

I'de have ſuch ſilly ſouls as theſe are, but conſider a little with themſelves, whether the place where Phyſitians have their education be not one and the ſame to all; and when they have done that, peruſe the weekly bills of Mortality in *London*, and ſee if they don't find ſome figures there as well as all Cyphers; Nay if the Numbers of their dead do not equal, to ſay no more, thoſe amongſt us in the Country, all due proportions being alow'd; & then let all the world judge if theſe bold Undertakers be not hugely to be credited, that can have the impudence to talk thus.

There are ſome Stratagems never to be made uſe of above once; and if they do happen to come about a ſecond time, are ſure to be diſcovered, provided againſt, and baffled: but here is a piece of Artifice beyond all Precedent, never to be worn Threadbare or out of faſhion, but like the never failing Cordial it ſelf holds out everlaſtingly; and recourſe may be had to it upon every occaſion, And as it has been Practiſed time out of mind (though perchance never publickly declaimed againſt before now) ſo is it at length become hereditary, pleads a kind of Preſcription, and paſſes for currant even from Generation to Generation; it being by conſtant obſer-

obſervation, found exactly calculated to the *Meridians* of all Country pariſhes in and throughout *England*.

And if we conſider over and above the length of it's duration, and vaſtneſs of its extent, the ſweetneſs of the Cuſtom it ſelf, and how throughly it has been ſnatched by a great many of thoſe, whoſe intereſt it is to have it ſtill kept up, we muſt needs conclude it a task exceeding full of difficulty, let what can be ſaid againſt it, ever to procure it totally to be laid aſide again; and it be but for theſe two reaſons following: Firſt of all, That it is a Project making ſuch dead ſure work then ever 'tis put in Practice. Secondly, that it is ſo eaſily performed. For 'tis but a bold mans crying out againſt a wrong courſe, and his being ſent for too late, and there is a firm foundation laid for the raiſing what ever malicious ſuperſtructure Mr. *Slanderer* ſhall Judge convenient, and he who is but qualified according to that moſt excellent Character we have been all this while making a deſcription of, and has once let fly theſe words; is *ipſo facto* upon that very account perched up above the common Standard of all his equals, and veſted with an Authority far ſurpaſſing the abſoluteneſs of any Judge; for whereas a Judge is to act by vertue of his commiſſion barely, and has his power

power limited and circumſcribed by the known Laws of the land, whereby he is under a neceſſity of following the tract of a dozen plain Country-men, the Verdict of every one of which is to take Precedencie of his ſentence; here's one has the Law put into his own hand; or rather indeed, who makes his own Liſt his Law, and takes upon him to Arraign, Judge, and Condemn at meer Random and Peradventure. A Piſh, and a Tuſh, and a diſtorted countenance, are of authority ſufficient to diſpatch the credit of as good or a much better Phyſitian then himſelf in a breathing while, if happening to have the place of his Reſidence without the Precincts of the City-wards: And the very name of a Country Doctor puts in a bar of Exception to all he can either ſay or do; and in a word renders him a meer outlaw to the leaſt pretence of claim, to either civil reſpect or fair uſage: And all they who are thus exalted above them, look upon themſelves as priviledged to trample them to pieces, like ſo many Worms or Muſhromes, as often as the haſty mood chances to be upon them, 'tis an ancient cuſtom 'tis true, as has been ſuppoſed; and that's all that can be ſaid for it: But 'tis as wicked as unreaſonable; indeed ſo very wicked a one, as that, though it may, and does oftentimes no doubt Miniſter occaſion

of

of laughter to fooles, and ſuch as who, ſo they can but be merry, care not at what rate it is they purchaſe their preſent paſtime; yet would it if well thought upon, ſet a conſidering man a trembling to ponder with himſelf what are wont to be the fruits thereof in the horrid conſequences that do attend it.

And I could wiſh that all ſuch, as cannot but know themſelves to be highly guilty in this particular, my meaning is of oppoſing and threatning the deſpiſed men we have been all this while ſpeaking about, and that for no other reaſon, then that no reaſon at all which has been likewiſe aſſigned by us, would but a little lay the matter to heart; perchance the diverſion they ſhall give themſelves would not be altogether ſo full of merriment as ſometimes it has been, and the forethoughts of an after rekoning might prove ſome allay to the great contentment, many are apt to fancy to themſelves in their chewing the Cud upon the blaſted Reputations of other men. For the thing however light and trivial it may haply appear to Vulgar eyes, is not ſo in its own nature, but to be reflected upon by ſuch as will Judge rightly of it, under a far different Notion: becauſe when once this common bank of charity comes to be tumbled down,

tis eaſy to diſcern what an Ocean of inconveniencies, and thoſe none of the meaneſt ſort neither, ſtand ready to enter immediately upon the breach; Becauſe he that has once ſhewn himſelf a buſie body in endeavouring to prove his Brother a fool: 'Tis ten to one if he do not in the next place diſcover himſelf to be an Errant Knave, by adventuring upon thoſe mad preſcriptions which otherwiſe he would have been aſhamed of: For has the other taken a wrong courſe indeed, and has he ſaid it then? rather then to give his own tongue the lie, he is engaged in point of credit to run counter to all the other party has done before him. And when once maters arrive to that height it may very well be ſuſpected that he who made but little conſcience of breaking the ninth Commandment, will be as regardleſs of violating the Sixth; and he who could think it no crime at all, to bear falſe witneſs againſt his Neighbour, will with as little regret of conſcience, be inclined to the Commiſſion of Murder: Eſpecially when it may be brought about after an indirect way: And when egged on thereto by Pride and Malice, and a fearleſneſs of ever being called to an account; but inſtead thereof being ſo ſurely provided of a Cloak-Father on whom to lay the obliquity of the Action,

Action, in case of its happening to be search-ed into. This makes him all for Projects, and experiments and trying of conclusi-ons:

Nero, when he had set the City of *Rome* on fire, could afford to make the better pas-time at the flames thereof, because he had the *Christians* ready at a dead lift, to entitle to his wickedne ſs: and just so, and no o-therwise do these mischievous and ill natur-ed sort of men serve the poor Country Phy-sitians when ever they come amongst them, let who will enflame the reckoning, they are evermore put upon it, to pay the shot: Because they and none else, in case the Pa-tient happen to dy, are to be accounted of as his Murtherers; but if he chance to escape, as the only instruments of bringing his life into jeoperdy. So that fall back, fall edge, they are certain evermore to lie next harms way. And take the *Dilemma* by which Han-dle you please, either is like to prove but a wrong one to them. The others like his holiness, are not so much as capable of com-miting the least oversight, or if they do a-miss, by a strange kind of transmutation, their Vicious acts are all turned into vir-tues, only by becoming theirs. It puts me in mind of some great Commanders in a Sea-fight, who they say after they have been

inſconſed in Cable, and inveloped about with Cordage, even from the head to foot, are then fierceſt of all, to give forth their orders for the joyning of the battel: and after the ſame manner do theſe prime Artiſts let out their mad receipts upon the bodies of the miſerable Patients, and when they have done that, ſtand by, and ſee how well Nature and the Diſeaſe combate together, and are all the while (to the praiſe of their great prudence, be it ſpoken) free from danger, and out of Gun-ſhot themſelves.

It ſtrikes me with amazement, ſomtimes when I think on't, that the beſotted Relations that are about the ſick party are not offended at ſuch a fulſome way of Procedure, but can be content to hear them out in what they have to ſay, and ſuffer them to go on in a ſlandering backbiting way, without check or controll, as ſome do, ſo as to fleſh and encourage them in this their ſly kind of Knavery, and 'tis a wonderful ſtrange thing to me, that they don't urge them to make good what they ſay face to face, ſeeing the parties are ſo near together, who are of theſe different perſwaſions, and ſeeing it may be done with ſo little trouble, to the end they may be the better enabled to come to the knowledge of the truth of the buſineſs, and to paſs ſome little eſtimate how

matters

matters ſtand themſelves, though every Man is not a Phyſitian, yet he muſt be a very dolt indeed, who is not ſo far forth a Maſter of his own Reaſon, as to underſtand ſence when 'tis ſpoken upon ſo common a Subject, and their are few by-ſtanders at a bar of Juſtice, but upon a faithful opening of the cauſe on both ſides between the parties, may be able to give a gueſs ſomething near the matter where abouts the iſſue is like to reſt. Whereas they, who have an ear only for the Plaintiff, can never Judge of things impartially; but muſt unavoidably be Subject to miſtakes and incertainties, and it be but for this only Reaſon, becauſe the knowledge they are capable of having, is no more than contingent; if happening to be true, well and good: 'tis more than he who receives the information, could reaſonably have been aſſured of, and conſequently ought not to acquieſce in; becauſe it was equally probable that it might have been falſe. So that albeit in the profound Myſteries of Artificial wrangling, it be looked upon by thoſe who are well Verſed therein, to be a huge ſtep towards the carrying of the Cauſe, to be able to cry Whore or Thief firſt: Yet amongſt ſober and diſcreet perſons, the Caſe is far otherwiſe; and that very Circumſtance of *Pre-occupation*, in drawing up the Charge

againſt another, inſtead of aggravating the Crime, does but abate the Clearneſs of the Teſtimony given in, and render the Complainants Allegations ſo much the more ſuſpitious.

To ſpeak hardly behind ones back, and to be the Inventer of little detracting Stories, to the Diſpraiſe of another Man, who may be ſuppoſed in the Opinion of the world, to ſtand upon Grounds equal with ones ſelf, is a practice ſo mean and ungentile, and creeping baſe, that 'tis a Riddle to me, that any who does but pretend to either Learning or Parts, or an ingenuous Education, ſhould ever condeſcend upon the moſt tempting provocation, to make uſe of it. What then we ſhall think of thoſe who can ſpeak ſmoothly to a mans face, and yet upon the turning into another Room, ſo ſoon as ever they can fit themſelves of an opportunity and place to vent their Malice in, muſt be darting out their ſlanderous Suggeſtions againſt thoſe they juſt before ſeemed marvellouſly to approve of? This is an Action ſo purely Diabolical, and ſmells ſo hot of Brimſtone, that thoſe Noſtrils muſt be dull indeed, that ſcent it not at the firſt Breath. It can be reſembled to nothing more fitly than the killing a man when fallen faſt aſleep; or the ſtabbing of one behind,

what

what time he leaſt of all thinks on't. Surely all ſuch as have hearts bad enough to propound the doing of ſuch vile things as theſe, if their Wit were but proportionable to their ſpight, one would think however, they ſhould be deterred from the performance of them; becauſe if their meaning come once throughly to be underſtood, as 'tis plain enough to every indifferent capacity that it ſhould; they might very well expect to meet with a good ſmart Chiding, inſtead of a welcom Entertainment, and ſo no doubt they ſometimes do, as in the Caſe but newly inſtanced in, and divers others, which every ones Experience may be able to furniſh them withal. But ſuch, alas! is the Folly and Madneſs of the World, that People are generally ſo tame, as to ſuffer themſelves to be miſerably impoſed upon by theſe palpable Abuſes; and under a pretence of having their Eyes opened, are content to be led about by the Noſes any whither; they are made to believe, that a ſtrange Cure, (ſuch as theirs is, be it what it will) can never be wrought but after a ſtrange and extraordinary manner. Their own Doctor, poor man! 'tis true, might haply do well enough, were he to wade in ſome ſhallow Stream he had been acquainted with before; but as the Caſe ſtands, he is now quite out

of his Depth, and at a plunge what to do, and which way to turn himſelf; that is in plain Engliſh, leſs daring and adventurous about mad projects than themſelves; and when once they have brought ſimple people to that paſs to ſwallow any thing they'd have them, then let them alone to make the beſt of their eaſineſs of Belief; for now they have gained the point they aimed at, and like the Wolves in the Fable, when they had perſwaded the Sheep to leave off the Company of the Dogs, whom they pretended to have had ſome evil Deſign upon them, have it in their power to deal with the wretched defenceleſs Creatures as they liſt, and worry them at their pleaſure.

The Daughters of old *Pelias*, when they were once throughly poſſeſſed with an opinion of their Fathers being made young again, what deſperate undertaking was it that they either ſcrupled or boggled at: the Poet tells us, that ſhe who was the moſt Pious above all the reſt, ſhewed her ſelf the moſt forward, and active inſtrument, in cutting the Old mans throat, and draining his very heart blood out, and all out of a ridiculous hope that much better and freſher might be transfus'd into the room of it; which dutiful Office, ſo ſoon as ever they had performed, away flies ſhe who had given them this good

good Counſel, hurried by a pair of Winged Dragons in the Air; and ſo they were finely left in the Lurch, with the Ghoſtly Spectacle of a Father's murdered Body before their eyes to gaze upon, and to bewail their own Credulity when it was too late.

The parallel is the ſame to a hairs breadth, in the Caſe we have been deſcribing. The Patient waxes ill, and upon Summons, down comes a man of rare Parts and profound Skill (or is believed to be ſuch at leaſtwiſe, and then 'tis the ſame thing in ſome reſpects, though not in all) and he looks gruff, and talks big; and uſually the more extravagant his Diſcourſe is, the more 'tis admired by thoſe who deſired his Aſſiſtance; for ſhould there be any reaſon to be given for what he ſays, that would utterly ſpoil its Excellency; becauſe capable of being underſtood, and appearing like ſomething vulgar and common, which they did not expect to hear from him. And then ſo ſoon as ever the Word of Command is given, though perchance ſo haſtily, that 'tis impoſſible for any mortal Wight living within ſo narrow a Compaſs of time as is then taken, to arrive to the perfect knowledge of all Particulars neceſſary to be conſidered of: Yet notwithſtanding all that, without ſo much as examining what proportion it may

bear

bear with the preſent Exigency of the Party, or ſuffering others to do it for them; What running, what hurrying, what poſting, what packing, to have it ſpeedily put in execution! Every Minute ſeeming ſeven years till the Will of the Learned be fulfilled. And when the Remedy does come to be made Trial of, inſtead of growing better, it may be the Patient becomes much worſe than he was before; and if it be a deſperate one as is not ſeldom ſeen, then immediately upon the applying of it, he falls downright into a ſinking condition, and ſo dies away under their hands; and then they look upon one another like a company of Amazed, Giddy-Brain'd and Beſotted Wretches; and whatever they confeſs with their Mouths (if they have any kindneſs at all for their deceaſed Friend) wiſh in their hearts at leaſt-wiſe, they had been better adviſed.

As for his part who did the Miſchief, to carry home the Compariſon, he is far enough out of hearing, before ever the effect of his wretched Counſel comes to take place; and when he knows it, ſo little is he concerned thereat, as that he is in as fair a way as ever for the trying ſuch another Experiment. And the next time he is invited out upon a like occaſion, the very ſelf ſame Game comes

to

to be played over again, some few Circumstances of Time and Place only excepted; and he puts the same Tricks upon Physitian, Patient and By-standers, and abuses every one of them in their Order, as has been already shewn; and so he runs round in a Circle, and no one knows how to trap him; nay, ten to one, if some of the most able Gossips of their Tongues upon the Place, don't take his part for all this, and justifie every thing he has either said or done, if it be but meerly to maintain matter of Argument to discourse about, or to render their own Physitian the more ridiculous, or for some other vile Reason not at all deserving to be enquired into.

And this I have ever perswaded my self to have been one main Reason why so very few Physitians, however otherwise Learned and honest men, yet if happening to live without the Verge of the City of *London*, , seldom or never to come to attain to the Greatness of an Estate equal with them, who either are Inhabitants of the City it self, or else happen to have the Place of their Abode at a more remote distance from it, meerly upon the account of shunning forth of the ill-Natured Men above mentioned, upon their sick Patients; who, let them behave themselves never so warily, advise ne-

ver ſo regularly, or to have been never ſo happy in their Practice; all's one for that, a hundred to one but that at ſome time or other they ſhall have a Slur put upon their moſt innocent Actions, which ſhall both ſully their Credit, and bring their Perſons into a Diſrepute; Calumny being ever of that defiling Nature, that like the Dirt raked out of the Channel, if it be but luſtily ſet on, it ſhall very rarely be ſo waſhed out again, as not to leave ſomething or other of a ſtain behind it; eſpecially, if happening to be performed by a Party, who in caſe of underdoing, is in all likelihood to be condemned to the very ſame Penalty himſelf.

'Tis true indeed, there are two things, which conſidered of barely in themſelves, render it an extream difficult Matter for any Countrey-Phyſitian whatever, to arrive to any eminency either of Eſtate or Reputation: But if the Acceſſion of what we have been ſpeaking of, happen to fall in likewiſe, then next to impoſſible.

The firſt whereof is, the exceeding thinneſs of the Inhabitants they have to do withal. Citizens, as they live cloſe together, ſo many of them may be viſited in a little time; whereas a whole day will ſcarcely ſuffice for the going from one Family to another

other in the Countrey, as the Case may be, and where the gross Sum is but small, there a little Abatement brings it to just nothing at all.

And the Second is, That Spirit of censuring Countrey-Folk are generally indued withal; whether it be from the variety of Objects, multiplicity of Business, the Genius of the Place, or Humour of the People, or what else may haply be said to be the reason thereof, I shall not much trouble my self to enquire; yet certain it is, we shall seldom or never observe these Inhabitants who take up their Dwellings in populous Cities, to be half so diligent in searching into the condition and qualifications of their next Neighbours, as your Country-people usually are, who as they pry narrowly with their Eyes, seldom fail to speak as broadly with their Tongues whenever occasion serves, and to Trumpet out all, and sometime more than all their Miscarriages for the information of others, that they have been at the pains to make Discovery of themselves. He that either is ignorant of, or unwilling to believe this untoward Disposition of too many, let him but lend an ear to the frivolous Reports that Neighbours in the Countrey are pleased to busie themselves every day to spread about of one another,

and

and he will quickly be brought to confess that the matter of the Assertion is not altogether without Grounds. The Rule we have given us to walk by, is, to *love our Neighbour as our selves*, and to deal by others as we would have others deal by us; in place of which, commonly succeed Envy, Whisperings, Evil Surmisings, the worst of Constructions upon the most harmless and innocent Actions, together with a Delight in nothing more than the Ruine and Downfal of those very persons we are so much engaged above all others to be in love withal: And whenever the Gentlemen we are discoursing about, happen to strike in with a sort of People thus excellently well qualified, how utterly impossible is it for their Designs to do otherwise than take effect? 'Tis like the meeting of Fire and Brimstone together, where the one is full out as aptly disposed to receive, as the other to Communicate. And when things are thus prepared to their Wish, they are only with *Cæsar*, when he overcame the gentlest of his Enemies, just to stretch forth their hands to receive the Victory when offered: There is only need of an Attempt in some Cases; and this is one of them. How happy then must those Persons be accounted of, who are thus highly priviledged above others?

And

And how great an Act of Self-denial muſt that be in caſe of a fair opportunity preſenting it ſelf, not to make uſe of thoſe Advantages.

I have always had this Notion thoroughly fixed in my head, ever ſince I have had any thing to do with Commerce in the World; that the readieſt way to maintain the greateſt correſpondence with thoſe we live amongſt, was to maintain the leaſt of all. Becauſe though intimate acquaintance be a *Medium* proper enough if conſidered in it ſelf, both to beget love and cement affections together: Yet by accident and through the evil diſpoſition of thoſe it oftimes happens to be found amongſt, it produces a quite contrary effect, and becomes the greateſt Makebate & Incendiary of others again in the Nation.

The reaſon of which if we but conſider things aright, is no whit difficult to comprehend, in regard thoſe who meet often together, can never well be ſuppoſed deſtitute of ſome matter or other, fit to make the ſubject of their diſcourſe. And then it being not probable for all to be of the ſame mind, much diſcourſe cannot chooſe but gender a great deale of diſputing; no diſputation though never ſo frivolous can poſſibly be managed without oppoſition; that and

quarrelling

quarrelling with ſome, are one and the ſame thing. Whence enſue diſtaſtes, animoſities, and heartburnings. Theſe with with many after they have lain feſtering in in their minds awhile, degenerate into implacable maliciouſneſs. Which gradation onee admitted of, as indeed 'tis as evident as the Sun ſhining at Noonday, what can be more Natural than for thoſe of the ſame Neighbourhood to be evil affected one towards another. To ſay nothing of a thouſand other little circumſtances, which do almoſt every day fall out, and miniſter new and freſh occaſions for a petulant humour to work upon. To all which may be added the unalterable diſpoſition of ſome men, to envy all their Superiors, malign their equals and deſpiſe whomſoever they conceive to be beneath them. And then ſurely it muſt needs be an extraordinary hard task, for any to undertake to cohabit with ſuch, and yet not at all to be liable to the ſtroak of their invincible diſpleaſure; here juſt ſuch another vain attempt, as to walk amongſt burning Coals, without danger to ones Feet, or be pudling at the hole of a Hornets neſt and never expect the mean while to be at all ſtung by them.

And therefore what a mountain of diſcouragement has that Phyſitian to break through

through, and it be but upon those two accounts forementioned; who is necessitated to take up the place of his residency in a Country village; the good esteem of those he dwells amongst, being in a manner all he has to trust to, and the only foundation whereon to build for the advancement of his future practice.

Those persons at a distance being evermore willing to be determined in their thoughts, by the testimony and character which shall be given by such as live nearer hand, because as they have the more frequent opportunities of making their observations of the mans actions; so likewise may they reasonably be imagined to be the better enabled to pass a right sentiment concerning them, so that if he fails here, 'tis like stumbling at the Threshold, he must look to have good success no where, but to be affronted and baffled, in every action of moment he shall happen to be interested in afterwards, throughout the course of his whole life.

Purely upon which consideration, and no other motive of what nature or kind soever, though I had relation to many places since my leaving the University; I never yet durst entitle my self an inhabitant of any one of them, but like some Knight Errand upon

his journey; or the Iſland *Delos* in the Sea, before the birth of *Latona* her Children; have evermore kept my ſelf in a kind of locomotive poſture. At length, wearied with the inconveniencies that attend a wandring life, I reſolved upon fixing my abode at *Richmond* upon *Thames*, which as 'tis a place for pleaſantneſs of ſcituation: ſo for candour and civility of its Inhabitants, ſcarcely to be matched again throughout all *England*.

Where, before ever I could put my deſigned Purpoſe into execution, down comes that Monſter of Ingratitude Dr. *Willis* his *quondam* Journeyman, and ſerves me the very ſame Trick for ſubſtance that the other Gentleman his Neighbour did you. I confeſs the ſame part might have been acted by another as well as by him. I have already ſuppoſed it, and the Subject Matter hitherto treated about, is a ſufficient Evidence thereof; but yet I have reaſon for my own part to take it moſt kindly from his Hands, becauſe I am principally to thank my ſelf for his being ſent for, and becauſe it was an Action ſo like the Authors own ſelf, and ſo patly ſuiting with his *Genius*.

For what could be more agreeable, than for one, who had the Foundation of his Practice laid in the Defamation of his own Maſter, to contrive the carrying on the remainder of the work

work by the ſelf-ſame kind of Ingenuity. There are a ſort of Savage Creatures in Nature, that will be ready ſometimes to take a leap at the Throats of thoſe who fleſh them moſt: And there are ſome men that are like them; but that by the way the more full Relation of the matter, be pleaſed to take as followeth.

About the latter end of the Month of *January*, I was ſent for to a Lady of good Eſteem, aged upward of Sixty, of but a weakly conſtitution of Body, and much addicted to the Scurvey and Gout; as the knottineſs of her Joynts, pains in and about her Limbs, together with ſeveral other Indications not at all neceſſary to be here recounted, made ſufficiently enough to appear. Her Urine was pale and clear, without the leaſt ſhew of Sediment; and her Pulſe but low. The reaſon of her preſent Indiſpoſition was taken from walking abroad in a cold and damp Garden. 'Twas ever her Cuſtom, and ſhe owned it, when ill at any time, to conſult with ſeveral Phyſicians, to hear what each of them had to ſay to her, but to follow the Directions of few, or none of them, when ſhe had done. And if at any time ſome one above the reſt proved to be ſo happy as to prevail with her, to fancy ought of his Pre-

ſcriptions, 'twas at beſt obſerved after ſo lame and imperfect a manner, that by a kind of Synechdochical Interpretation, a part was to be taken for the whole: And let what would be debated, and reſolved upon, and by whomſoever, ſhe would be ſure to reſerve the caſting Vote to her ſelf; and in the cloſe of all, determined the ſtate of the Controverſie that way which ſeemed the moſt agreeable to her own Opinion. I knowing her to be of this Temper, and ſhe expecting it ſhould be taken notice of, ought in reaſon to be ſo much the leſs poſitive in preſſing any thing I perceived her obſtinately ſet againſt; but rather to endeavour to work her over by degrees to what I looked upon in my Conſcience to be moſtly for her Good. There are ſome Natures, may by a gentle complyance be brought to the doing of divers things, who will be compelled to juſt nothing at all.

That which ſhe ſeemed to complain of principally at this time, was a Pain in her Head and Side: As a Remedy againſt which I propoſed Bleeding at the very beginning; but that was a thing ſhe utterly diſliked of, and deſired with ſome paſſionateneſs of expreſſion, that it might no further be inſiſted on.

The day was too far ſpent to admit of a purga-

purgative Potion, and which I at that time a little ſcrupled at (I muſt confeſs) had it been more early, for fear of calling in the Arthritick Humours towards her Stomack and Bowels. But the application I was more eſpecially inclined to, and that which ſhe her ſelf beſt liked of (whoſe Approbation was in no wiſe to be left out) was a Carminative Clyſter, as conſidering moſt Gouty Bodies to be generally oppreſſed with Windineſs; hers I knew to be ſo in an eminent manner, and therefore conceived ſo much the better hopes of drawing down ſuch Flatulenties as might give annoyance to either Part above mentioned by way of Revulſion: Upon the admiſſion of the Clyſter, ſhe avoided abundance of Wind, reſted pretty well that night, and was in ſome hopes of amendment the next day; but the Pains in her Cheſt and Head, though ſomething remitted, yet continuing in part, and her Stomach but weak withal, I adviſed her farther to the keeping cloſe to her Bed, and the drinking once in five hours time three or four Spoonfulls of a good ſprightly Cordial, which I oft found by experience to be of a very expelling Nature, ſome few drops *S. C. C.* being thereunto ſuperadded; and that between whiles ſhe ſhould not forget to take plenty of Poſſet-Drink, in which *Marygold*-flowers,

Sage, and Shavings of *Hartshorn* had been throughly decocted ; the intendment of which Preſcription was chiefly bottomed upon theſe Reaſons following.

Firſt of all, To ſecure her Stomach from the influx of Noxious Humours, which upon the leaſt diſturbance might be apt to be congregated there, and keep them off at a further diſtance.

Secondly, To digeſt and expel thoſe Flatulenties that the Clyſter had as yet left unremoved.

And thirdly, Though I was not ignorant how indiſpoſed a Body ſhe had for Sweating: Yet I did believe it however an apt means to reſolerate and keep open the Pores thereof, ſo as to let forth thoſe Fuliginous Vapours by a kind of inſenſible tranſpiration, which could not be avoided otherwiſe. Which laſt, though it be a Doctrine underſtood but by a few, yet is it of general uſe; and by all ſuch as apprehend it as they ought, and ever will be looked upon in very many caſes as a Remedy ineſtimable ; and I could heartily have wiſhed that the Lady her ſelf had been one of that ſmall number, who had been able to have judged of that particular Intimation as of right it deſerved, perchance it might have been ne're the worſe for her; or at leaſtwiſe have been willing to have

ſubmitted

ſubmitted to it upon the Authority of thoſe that did. But Phyſicians are only to give forth the beſt directions they can, and then to acquieſce in the Integrity of their own Conſciences. 'Tis a thing impoſſible for them to tranſmit their Notions into the Heads of thoſe who have not capacities to receive them.

And then as for the ſo frequent repetition of the Decoction before recited, I, who underſtood no better, dull Creature as I was! remained hugely well ſatisfied in my own thoughts with ſuch alike reaſons to theſe. Firſt, I conſidered, that notwithſtanding ſhe had never as yet from the time of her firſt illneſs, had any the leaſt Symptoms of a Feaver appearing upon her, as indeed ſhe never had any till the Tueſday before her death: Beſides, what was occaſioned by one ſingle Fit of an Ague (which upon the uſe of fitting Remedies, as ſhall be ſhewed in its proper place) never returned afterwards; Yet that was an evil however, both to be feared and armed againſt, and that not only upon that one general Account, becauſe few other Diſtempers of what kind or nature ſoever, but what are oft times found to be the Harbingers thereto; but alſo becauſe the acute pains in the Membranous Parts of her Body, and the Inflammation in and about her

Throat ſhe had hitherto ſo often complained of, might ſeem in ſome meaſure more immediately to threaten it.

Secondly, For that I had perceived her Stomack to be much infeebled, as was very clear, to ſet aſide many other Circumſtances, from her exceeding proneneſs to vomit upon every light occaſion. Whereupon thought I, what more inoffenſive Nouriſhment and eaſie of digeſtion could poſſibly have been adminiſtred to her, than that was?

It came to my mind likewiſe, of how very thick and coagulated a ſubſtance the Blood of Scorbutick People is uſually found to be, and how deſtitute for the moſt part of that Serous Humour that ſhould render it more fluid, and be a means to help it forward in the performance of its Circulation: And upon that I was brought to conclude without any great matter of ſcruple, that the moſt probable Expedient for the reducing it to a fitting temper, muſt be by a plentiful ingeſtion of ſomething of a like nature, unto that which by its abſence had occaſioned it to be ſo, and which might the ſooneſt and moſt eaſily of all others be communicated to the whole Maſs.

But now, What thing is there in nature approaches nearer to an Identity with Blood, than Milk doth? abſtract but the Colour and

ſome

ſome few accidental Differences, and that man muſt have more than an ordinary ſubtile head-piece who is able to reſolve wherein the diſagreement lies betwixt them, ſo as really to diſtinguiſh the one of them from the other. From whence it follows by the cleareſt evidence of Demonſtration, that the loſs of thoſe uſeful qualities whenever they happen to be wanting in the Blood, is beſt of all repaired by the acceſſion of ſome ſuch others as are to be met withal in a Milky ſubſtance; and therefore the Decoction recommended by us cannot otherwiſe chooſe but be of ſingular uſe in the preſent caſe we are now arguing about, as muſt needs appear to any one who has but a Stock of Reaſon, competent enough to make a due compariſon between ſuch ſenſible Objects as ſhall be preſented to his view.

In Milk there are three parts deſerving conſideration, two of which are of a more groſs ſubſtance convertible into Cheeſe and Butter, and both of them are known to be great Supporters of humane Life; but the other remaining, is of a thin and ſubtile Nature reſolvible into Whey only. The two former may well be looked upon as no whit ſubſervient to our Deſign, not only becauſe diſagreeable to an infeebled ſtomack through which they are to paſs, and in which they were

were to be more laboriously wrought upon before ever they could become good Nourishment; but likewise because partaking in too great a measure of those other qualifications which the Bloud was supposed to abound withal more than sufficiently already. But the Wheiey part, of which our Decoction solely consists, both recreates the Stomach by a nourishment standing in need of little or no concocting at all (which if it did, Nature could in no wise afford at that time, as being otherwise more busily employed.) And being thence carried away without any great matter of difficulty into the Veins and Arteries where the Distemper is more immediately seated; may well be said to do greater execution there: I say it again, and will prove it when I have done, much greater Execution by its presence there, than any other Remedy beside of what kind or quality soever. My Reasons are, because, as has been already intimated, being once communicated to the Bloud, it supplies it as much as is possible with those qualifications it stood in want of before its arrival thither, is capable of being impregnated with the Virtues of several Medicaments, and those very useful ones too, which are not altogether so fit to be made use of in their own substance; and then if considered simply

ſimply and in it ſelf, is apt to obviate and prevent all that other train of horrid Symptoms, which divers ſick people are found obnoxious to upon the ſmalleſt alterations. Was the Radical moiſture nigh-hand waſted before? This furniſhes it with a freſh Supply. Was the Circulation put to a ſtand? This renews its Courſe, and maintains it from the time of its admiſſion in a conſtant moveable Diſpoſition: 'Tis this contemperates the Heart, irrigates the Brain and Nervous Parts of the Body; which, as they are the only Organs deſtinated to ſenſation, ſo if happening to be drawn into a conſent with others that are actually inflamed, preſently become heated and diſtempered together with them, ſo as to haſten on Convulſions, Phrenſies, an invincible Reſtleſneſs of both Body and Mind; and in the concluſion of all, even Death it ſelf. Upon which Conſiderations I was always careful to ſee her well ſupplied of what I conceived ſo highly conducing to her Preſervation; and to put thoſe who were Attendants upon her often in mind of the ſame thing.

I perceived by the whiſtling of her Pipes that her Lungs were ſomewhat oppreſſed, and in danger of Suffocation: and therefore for the timely preventing any inconvenience that might ariſe that way, to the incommoding

ding ſo Noble a Part, adviſed her likewiſe from the very beginning to the uſe of a Pectoral Lohoch, which by joyning with the Spittle of her Mouth, might by its gentle diſtillation upon the *Aſpera Arteria* commix with the congealed Matter contained there, and dulcifie the ſharpneſs thereof; render it leſs Viſcous and Clammy, and by that means more inclineable to be brought away by Expectoration.

But this was rejected, as the Advice for Bleeding was before; and an anſwer returned thereto of a like import with the former; how that ſweet things as they were always enemies to her, ſo ſhe likewiſe in requital was the ſame to them again. And that for her part, ſhe was reſolved neither to meddle nor make with any thing of that nature.

So that ſometimes the Rule comes to be inverted: Patients cannot away with ſweet things from the hands of their Phyſitians; and when it ſo falls out, ten to one if they are not put upon it to receive ſomething of a bitter quality from them: And to ſpeak the truth, 'tis but fitting they ſhould. Sick Perſons and Children having always a right indubitable to an Indulgence in all things, which have not too great a tendency to their prejudice and harm.

But

But though *Lambatives* were excepted against, as a ſort of Medicament contrary to her *Genius*; at the time of my next coming I found ſhe had provided her ſelf of a *Pectoral Decoction*, either of her own compoſure, or by the aſſiſtance of ſome officious Neighbour of hers: which being made up of a many innocent and harmleſs Ingredients; ſuch as *Liquoris*, *Figs*, *Maidenhair*, *Raiſons of the Sun*, and the like; I gave it my approbation by ſpeaking nothing at all againſt it.

But withal calling to remembrance how familiar a thing it is for Pectoral Drinks to be miſtaken; inſomuch that to ſpeak within compaſs, there is ſcarcely one of a hundred, if the matter were rightly examined, would be found to make uſe of them after a due manner; I choſe rather to order ſomething to be taken in form of a Syrup, of which more hereafter in its proper place.

In the mean while, to make good the Aſſertion but newly laid down, let it be but throughly conſidered of for what end, eſpecially theſe Pectoral Decoctions are prepared? Are they not (as the Name ſufficiently indicates) ordained as a Remedy againſt the Affections of the Cheſt; they are ſo undoubtedly, and ſo underſtood by all. And yet for all that, the uſual way of admitting them

them is ſo very præpoſterous and contrary even to common Sence and Reaſon, as muſt clearly appear to any one who has but the leaſt Knowledge of the Structure of Mans Body, and the Relation the Parts thereof ſtand in, one towards another; that 'tis utterly impoſſible but that almoſt the whole of the Preparation ſhould be rendred in a manner ineffectual for the attaining of thoſe purpoſes unto which it was primarily deſigned.

As for inſtance, and to deſcend to an enquiry into the particular nature of the thing it ſelf: Whether or no it be from the commonneſs of the Denomination? all Drinks being generally looked upon in ſtrict propriety of ſpeech to denote ſomething, then the moſt uſeful, after it comes to be ſwallowed down; or from the prevalency of an Erroneous Cuſtom, the doing whereof, as it ſometimes proves all the warranty it hath; ſo likewiſe for the moſt part all the reaſon it carries along with it.

Yet ſo it comes to paſs, that in caſe of all *Catarrhs* and Diſtillations; whether riſen from ſome cold, newly taken, or an ill habit of body going before, or from what other cauſe, origination, elſe imaginable. The Pectoral Decoction, whenever it comes to be uſed; is with the ſame haſty ſpeed ſuffered

red to make its enterance into the Stomach, that all other Drinks commonly are. And the poor ſilly Patients are apt to ſatisfie themſelves very well in what they have done when they ſo take it: and to expect the greateſt benefit of all after its admiſſion thither; in ſo much that ſome perſons have been known to take down huge quantities thereof upon that only Score; and then to have fancied to themſelves ſome great matter of advantage to have redounded thereby; which if hapning to be ſo as they imagine, muſt needs be no other, than the working of their own fancies indeed. Becauſe the only poſſible way to come at the Lungs, and ſo by conſequence to do them good, is down ſtraight way by the Larynx or Windpipe (as has been formerly ſuppoſed) and therefore whatever Medicament comes once to be tranſmitted beyond that; and is but imagined to have made its approach to the confines of the Oſeing, cannot otherwiſe chuſe but be paſt all poſſibilitie of arriving at the Cheſt, unleſs any will be ſo vain as to imagine it to fetch a compaſs about by the Veins and Arteries; and ſo to viſit it in its progreſs along in Circulation with the Bloud; which Opinion, as it can never be defended with the leaſt ſhadow of reaſon; ſo neither can it be long adhered unto by any ſober and conſiderate man. Be-

Becauſe in the firſt place, the Stomachs even of the moſt healthful, are conſtantly affected with an acid kind of Juice; which will be ſure to impart ſomething of its own quality to whatever Liquor it comes to have any communication or intercourſe withall: and then after its departure thence into the Venal and Arterial Veſſels, whereby it becomes united as it were, and incorporated into one Body with the Bloud: what further degree of change and alteration muſt it of neceſſitie be ſuppoſed to undergo again? So that albeit in its priſtine Eſtate it may, and ought to be accounted of as purely Pectoral: Yet after all theſe ſhiftings, changes, and variations; It would ceaſe to be ſo any longer, as becoming of a quite and clean different nature from what Originally it was. And therefore if happening from that time forward to contribute any thing of Relief unto the Patient; it can in no wiſe be allowed to do ſo under the former Notion of being Pectoral; but upon ſome other accidental account: and ſo any decoction whatever, that was not Pectoral, might have done every whit as well.

But farther, it being by way of Conceſſion granted (though it can never be proved) that theſe firſt qualities, it was at firſt endued withall, have not been all this while im-

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paired; but to have remained altogether unchangeable; and in the ſelf ſame condition they were in from the beginning. Seeing nothing can be ſaid to operate after any ſort whatever where it ſelf is not. I would farther demand which way, and by what ſecret inſtinct it ſhould be directed to its journeys end, ſo as to find out thoſe very parts which ſtood in need of its aſſiſtance; becauſe in all likelyhood ſome competent portion thereof muſt be ſubject to be diverted in its courſe by ſweating; otherſome again be drained away by Urine. And then as for the Reſidue which ſhall be tranſlated thither: It muſt either paſs upon the account of Nutriment, or ſome other Title beſide. If the former, than no other part of the Body whatever, but what may lay as fair a claim thereto, as the Lungs can be ſuppoſed to have; becauſe Nature, being the ſame common Mother to them all, deſigns the diſtribution of her nouriſhment to every part of the Body alike; If the latter; It muſt in probabilty make ſome reaſonable ſtay there, in order to theproducing ſo generous an effect; which is another matter extream difficult to conceive of: becauſe then it muſt all on the ſudden ſhake hands with a new Acqaintance, in whoſe company it is ſuppoſed to glide along, and with whom it had juſt before as

it were contracted a new League of Alliance; and which is it ſelf always maintained in a progreſſive, endleſs motion; as being ſtill puſhed on a little more forwarder than it was before, by every repeated *Syſtole* of the Heart. Beſides after all that can be either ſaid or granted, the advantage gained thereby, amounts only to thus much; to be conveyed ſo far forth as the extremities, or meer out-parts of the Lungs, whereas the Grievance calling for Redreſs, lies much more inwardly and occult; even within the very Cavitie of the Windpipe it ſelf: and the divided & ſubdivided Branches thereof; (I ſpeak now of *Catarrhs*, & Diſtillations, for which theſe Drinks are frequently miſapplyed: not but that there are Caſes in which the Lights may be affected without any thing at all of a Diſtillation from above what time Pectoral Medicaments are allowed to be alike proper, as they are now; but thoſe being but rarely ſeen in compariſon of the others: and the very ſame way of application we have been contending for, being moſt deſervedly even in them to be preferred: It makes nothing at all againſt what I have been diſcourſing about) and that as proceeding firſt of all from the matter of the *Catarrh* ſo falling upon them. Or Secondly, from ſome noxious qualitie accompanying it in its Deſcent, both which are

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ſure to ſet the Lungs a coughing: The One of them as filling up that ſpace which by Nature it was never ordained for: and ſo conſequently not long to be endured there: The Other by irritating thoſe Veſſels it happens to approach unto by the ungratefulneſs of its Touch. And neither of theſe two Inconveniences can poſſibly be remedied by any thing remote, or kept at a diſtance from them.

No, it muſt be ſomething nearer hand, that is to ſatisfie ſuch Intentions as theſe are. Something that by joyning it ſelf with the matter of the *Catarrh*, may have an innate aptitude to abate its acrimony; take away or prevent that viſcide toughneſs, which after a little ſtay is wont to be contracted there, and thereby become a means to help Nature, disburthen her ſelf the more eaſily, when a Fit of Coughing ſhall next ſucceed: and alſo may be able by ſome virtues of a countervailing nature immediately to affect the very parts themſelves that have been prejudiced thereby; and that in the very ſame places where they had received their harm, which can be admitted of no otherwiſe, than by way of Lambative only; and ſo long as Pectoral Drinks are ſo taken, I have nothing at all to object againſt the free uſe of them. But becauſe I find the cuſtom,

but now reprehended, ſo conſtantly put in practice; and that not only by the common rout of ordinary People; but alſo ſuch as would willingly be thought to be of abilties, to render a reaſon for what they do: I have choſen to inſiſt the longer upon this tedious, though I hope not altogether unprofitable, digreſſion; which being at an end, I proceed to go on where I left off before; only craving leave before I do ſo, to acquit my ſelf from an Obligation I lye under, of giving a brief account of the Medicament, I deſired might be taken in Lieu of the other, together with the manner of its preparation, which was no other in ſhort but this. To take ſome few Cloves of Garlick, and infuſe them for a convenient time in a ſufficient quantity of Fountain-water made ſcalding hot; and ſo to be boiled up with a due proportion of Sugar to the conſiſtencie of a Syrop.

This I knew to be of efficacie for the opening of her Pipes, and the exonerating them of that burthen they ſeemed at preſent ſo much oppreſſed withall; and which could be hurtful to none who did not afterwards catch cold upon it; which inconveniencie I looked upon her to be ſufficiently ſecured from, as being under an indiſpenſable Neceſſitie of keeping within her Chamber; and

then

then by reaſon of her averſneſs to meddle with any thing, with the compoſition where-of ſhe had not before hand been made acquainted. I both preſcribed the way of making and applying it at large : Leaving her to the conduct of her ſelf and attendants, ſome few general directions excepted.

For now there began to be a ſeeming abatement of her firſt illneſs ; and we were all willing to conceive hopes, at leaſtwiſe, of a farther amendment ſuddenly to follow after.

That Phyſician who ſhews himſelf over-prodigal of his Viſits amongſt the more fickle ſort of his Patients, ſhall quickly give them a Surfeit of his company, and therefore it may do well ſome times, and upon ſome conſiderations to withdraw for a little time; though perchance upon others of leſſer moment, a longer continuance amongſt them might not have been altogether improper.

Whereupon the *Friday* following ; which was ſome two or three days after, I was again ſent for, upon a freſh Summons: The Nature of her Diſtemper, being now much altered from what it was before ; and diſconverting it ſelf apparently in the form of a down-right *Ague*, ſhe had been held for ſome two hours ſpace together with a ſhivering all over, which afterwards con-

cluded in a burning fiery Fit: at the time of my arrival there, I perceived her to be both hot and feaveriſh; and her Pulſe, never ſo till then, exceeding quick and high.

The Reſult I came to upon the preſent exigency, was This; that an intermitting Feaver was by no means to be tampered with all till the Paroxyſm were over. How that Nature was then buſie about her own work, which none could do for her, eſpecially at that juncture of time, ſo well as ſhe her ſelf; and therefore not to be diverted; but the ſafeſt way I knew, and the moſt likely to help on with the ſame deſign with hers, was by a plentiful drinking down of a decoction of *Cardamus Benedictus*; that thereby the febrile matter would in probabilitie be ſomewhat diminiſhed by Sweat and Urine: The Fermentation in her Bloud, and heat within her Bowells come to be the better qualified, and her Body by reaſon of a Specifick Virtue peculiarly incident to that Plant; rendered ſo much the leſs diſpoſed for a ſecond Invaſion at another time.

Adding withall, that the next Morning, when the preſent commotion was at an end; I ſhould adventure to give a purgative Potion, which might gently evacuate her Stomack, where the *Fomes* of the Diſtemper was (as I conceived) principally contained;

and

and this I was the more inclinable to do, in regard I foreſaw what inconvenience was like to befall one in her weak condition, in caſe any more ſuch acceſſions as that ſhould not have been ſeaſonably prevented.

I have not forgotten what, I was ſuggeſting e're while, my great fearfulneſs of Purging her at the beginning of her Illneſs; as being unwilling to offer any occaſion of drawing any of thoſe Humours more inwardly, which might happen to lurk near her Stomack and the Regions thereabouts, and could very well have been content to have been of that opinion ſtill, had Circumſtances remained the ſame they were.

But Neceſſity, as it is always to be obeyed in the firſt place; ſo is it capable of neither Conſultation nor Advice, but is evermore determined to one and the ſame thing. Whereupon the next morning I gave her the common *Oxford* Infuſion, much in uſe, I remember, what time I was a Student there, and which I have had frequent experience of for many years ſince; ſome gentle Syrups only ſuperadded thereto, which wrought very kindly and moderately with her: And from that time forward ſhe never complained of her Aguiſh Diſtemper more: Her Body continued ſoluble for ſome competent time after it. In order to the reſettlement

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whereof, ſhe had a *Bolus* appointed her to be taken *hora ſomni, ex Conſerv. Roſar. Rubrar. Flor. Ror-marin. an q. ſ. cum Dioſcordii ſemi-dragm. & ſp. C. C. gut. 5. una commixtis*; which alſo was repeated in the ſame proportion the Night immediately ſucceeding that, and had an Effect anſwerable to what might reaſonably be expected from it.

Die Dominic. the Pains of her Head were pretty well aſſwaged, but apt to recur ſtill at times: And now over and above ſhe began to be ſeized on with a kind of Lethargick Drowſineſs, ſo as to be much more heavy to ſleep, than at any other times of her former Illneſs: Wherefore fearing a ſettlement of Humours upon the Nervous Parts of her Head; and in order to the preventing any ſuch Accident that might poſſibly have ſo fallen out, I forthwith cauſed an *Epiſpaſtick* Plaiſter to be laid to her Neck, as alſo to each of her Ankles and Wriſts.

She complained very much of a burning heat about her Throat, and the parts adjoyning thereunto; for the mitigation of which ſhe had a Gangariſm prepared of Barly-water. *q. ſ.* in which the Leaves of Bramble, Cinquefoil, Columbines, and Red Roſes had been boiled; ſweetned with Syrop of Mulberries to her taſt, and rendered gratefully

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ſharp with two or three drops of Spirit of Vitriol.

She was inclinable to vomit, as has been noted heretofore; and for the redreſſing of that, had a quick and lively Cordial conſtantly in a readineſs, *Mithridat. un. Drach, ſuperaddit: & ad moderatam dulcedinem redact. Syrup Caryoph: & Roſar. Rubrar. an q. ſ.* and a Julip of a ſharp and delightſom taſt to refreſh and comfort her ſo oft as ſhe was diſpoſed to call for it; and over and above the Medicament, beforre cited againſt the oppreſſion at her Cheſt, there was Syrup *de Marrubio* appointed for her, to be licking of at pleaſure.

On the Monday I found her Eſtate to be but low; and conſidering that many things had been refuſed at the firſt of her illneſs, which were not at all fitting to be directed now; nor ſhe in a condition fit to receive them if they ſhould: I began to caſt about with my ſelf; to conclude on ſomething that might be anſwerable to ſeveral indications at once, and that without too much diſturbance to an enfeebled Body in the applying of it. That which occurred to my thoughts upon that occaſion, was a Plaiſter to be laid to the Region of her Stomach and Cheſt; yet ſo as to take in all thoſe other parts adjoyning, by the acceſſion of whoſe heat the Stomach

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it ſelf is ſuppoſed to be comforted, and digeſtion promoted. *recip. Rad. Ariſtoloch Rotund; Gentian Bacc. lauri an. cum proportione duplice Myrrhæ & cum Mellis q. ſ. reducantur in formam Emplaſtri*

Upon the Tryal of which Remedy I laid no little ſtreſs, could it but have been permitted to have continued on. Firſt of all, becauſe the Application being outward, and nature but weak, I apprehended it the more fitting, becauſe it might be made uſe of with little or no trouble. Secondly I perceived her Stomach and Cheſt to be much oppreſſed with Wind; and this I looked upon to be a proper means both to diſſipate and expel it.

I have ſomewhere met with an Author, who in the Diſcription he gives of the Region of the lower Belly, and the parts contained within it, makes mention of a perſon, who by accident had hapned to be deprived of his Caul, that common Apron as it were of the Bowels; and that he was from that time forward ſo ſeized on with a perpetual chillineſs in thoſe parts that were wont to lye over againſt it, that he was forced to wear a Cloth bound round about him on the one ſide of his Belly, in lieu of what ſhould have been placed innermoſt for the ſpace of his whole Life time afterwards.

Whether this be ſo or not; I have only my Au-

thors words to bare me out. But as for the Plaister before described, which in many respects may seem to hold a proportion with it I have had frequent experience of that, and whereever reason & experience concenter in one, I love to make my self a party, and strike in with them if I can; and when I have so done, 'Tis not every budg, conceited mans opinion that shall make me quit my hold again. There is nothing but reason, or at least some shew and appearance of it, that can ever seem to be a fit match to encounter reason, and he who has reason on his side in matters of this nature, and can yet sit down well satisfied, and suffer himself to be overborn by meer pertness, and confidence, and a Set of idle pretensions; which when they come to be enquired into, vanish into emptiness; and nothing deserves in my opinion no other *Encomium* for this his so high an instance of patience, than that of a contented Coward. As for my own experience, that I confess is a matter carrying but little of conviction along with it in reference to another man. But Truth is Truth, by whomsoever spoken, and he who is able, either by the self-evidence of the thing, or any good, close way of arguing to make out what he has to say to be but consonant thereunto, has little cause to trouble himself about

about the censures of the world, but may deliver his mind freely, without either Apologie or Preface: But now these Ingredients above-mentioned, being in severalty such as included a potential warmth in each of them. What could be more consentaneous, then to expect that, when their Forces come to be united as it were, and congregated into one, they should be apt to impart something thereof unto those parts over against which they had been so directly placed, and were so very nearly in conjunction withall. The Stomach, though it be both the place and principle Instrument of Concoction, is not however supposed to disdain the Concurrent Aids of other Assistants in the performance of that work. But the *Liver*, *Spleen*, and *Pancreas*, together with all the other Neighbouring Parts, ought to be looked upon as so many Fellow-helpers together with it, if for no other reason, than as adding barely heat to heat, and so contributing something of an Auxiliary Force so oft as there should be occasion; upon which Score some have not unfitly resembled them (to use but a homely comparison) to the Fuel disposed of about the sides, and underneath the Cauldron, which being once enkindled, it self is an apt means to set the other a boiling, and then maintain it so when

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it has done; and therefore I was in hopes (whether groundlesly or no, let others judg,) that what was of so enlivening and comforting a Nature, and withal could be so contrived as to involve them all, and communicate liberally of its virtue to each of them, might prove the most effectual Expedient above all others for the answering such an Intention; that is to say, the subduing that excess of windiness, that had been both generated and sheltered in those overchilled and empty Passages; which I apprehended, as well I might, to have been one main occasion of her so frequent Vomiting. For though I deny not but that many other Causes may, and do often concur in the producing the same Effect; Yet is it Wind especially that gives a disturbance to the Stomacks of such as have lost their Appetite beyond any of the rest, and therefore ought in reason to be principally regarded.

Nature we all know to abominate a *Vacuum*; and whatever space is not repleniſhed with something else, will, and must unavoidably, be filled up with Wind. But after a Fit of Vomiting, the Stomack is become emptied of that Sustenance which of right ought to be contained there: And if it be at a time when it is weakned with much Sickness, is unable to take more into the room of

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it. Whence wind ſucceeds of courſe (according to the ſuppoſition but now laid down) and from thence is conveyed by an eaſie paſſage into the Bowels, cavities of the Spleen, Liver, and Sweetbread, and divers other hollow Parts and Paſſages, which for the performance of ſeveral good Offices are diſpoſed of thereabouts, and from thence is returned back again frequently to annoy the Stomack, eſpecially that which is pent up in the *Colon*, is by conſtant experience found troubleſome in this reſpect; for that being for Scituation higheſt of all the other Inteſtines beſides, and immediately placed under the lower Region of the Stomack, by its perpetual heaving and raiſing up that part ſcarce ever ſuffers it to reſt in quiet; but having given it a diſturbance once, is as ready as before, to haſten on another Fit; and ſo on for a continuance, till either Nature makes head againſt this Domeſtick Enemy, and chaſes it forth of the Body (for the helping forward which deſign what is now pleaded for, ſeems to me to be of no ſmall efficacy) or elſe ſuffers herſelf to be quite vanquiſhed and overcome by it, and ſo Death ſteps in and puts an end to the Conteſt. And to ſpeak the truth of the matter, in caſe of great weakneſs and a frequency of Vomiting ſucceeding thereupon;

this

this grand Inconvenience is ſo very neceſſary to be attended to, that other Symptoms in compariſon thereof, though otherwiſe dangerous enough, cannot in reaſon lay claim to near ſo much of the Phyſicians care, becauſe, unleſs Vomiting ceaſe, 'tis impoſſible for life to hold out long. And then becauſe there are ſo many other horrid miſchiefs which owe their riſe and original to that of Vomitting; ſomewhat the more of regard upon thoſe Accounts, if not for its own ſake, ought to be had unto it. Coughing up of Bloud, is granted on all hands to be a grievous Symptom, and the Conſequences therof are both extream, dangerous, and ſad; but as the Caſe may ſtand, an avoidance of Bloud from the Lungs, may very well be, and is oft times brought to paſs by a Fit of Vomiting going before: for what more violent exerciſe of the Body can poſſibly be imagined than what is occaſioned from thence. Nature ſeems to do the very utmoſt ſhe can, ſo oft as put upon that act of Expulſion: and to ſet her ſelf about the performance of it, with no leſs than her whole Might. How do the Eyes ſparkle, the Sinews labour? and the Muſculous Parts of the Body gather and unite their Forces to a Head? And then is it ſo great a wonder, if in all this commotion and ſtrugling of the Parts, ſome one

ſlender

ſlender Vein or Arterie of the Lungs ſhould happen either to be opened or burſt in ſunder. Surely whenever it does fall out to be ſo, Nothing can more readily be accounted for, or more eaſily underſtood. Again, Reſtleſneſs, Convulſions, and Lightneſs of the Brain, are other frightful Affections; and looked upon by moſt, and that not undeſervedly with the greateſt horrour and amazement. And theſe alſo we very frequently occaſioned through a Fit, or more of Vomiting, as may moſt evidently be made appear to any one that will but ſeriouſly conſider of the matter. For in that vehement agitation of the Body are have been juſt now dicourſing about, and which muſt eaſily be comprehended by all who do but pretend to know any thing belonging to the nature of ſickneſs. When the Stomach becomes thus inverted, the Liver cannot otherwiſe chuſe, but in that very act, to be mightily compreſſed alſo: whence the Choller contained with in the Bladder of Gall, is with the greateſt violence imaginable driven forth into the *Duodenum*, and thence again by a contranatural motion forced to aſcend up into the hollowneſs of the Stomach; as is moſt evident by the abundance of that Excrement, which at ſuch times, and upon ſuch occaſions is uſually evacuated by the Mouth

(and

And here by the way, I cannot avoid taking notice of that wretched Fallacy divers people are wont to put upon themſelves, whilſt they miſtake the Choller ſo rejected for a certain pernicious Humour that had lain lurking (as they imagined) for ſometime within the Receptacles of their Stomacks.) O, cry they, this Vomitting muſt needs have done me a great deal of good; I ſee plainly it has, becauſe of its clearing my Stomack of that which common Sence and Reaſon informs me muſt needs do a great deal better out than in, whereas that which they behold with ſo much of contentment was never in their Stomacks at all (at leaſtwiſe under that Form) till the Fit of Vomiting brought it thither: Nor had been there then, if the Fit of Vomiting had never been; But I muſt reſume what I left before. I affirmed but even now thoſe evil Affections of the Head to be likewiſe oftimes in a great meaſure brought about by an Antecedent Fit of Vomiting: And my Reaſon is, becauſe the Choller was by that means forced to mount again up into the Region of the Stomack, and when it arrives there, it muſt be apt to ſpoil and embitter all that Supply of Nouriſhment that ſhall be taken in afterwards, and then commixing it ſelf with what it finds there, enforces Nature to carry it about the Body a ſe-

cond time, which being an Excrement exceeding ſharp and firie above all others, and ſo very prone withal to be gadding up into the Head, is by this Act of Cohobation (as it were) rendred much more ſo then it was before; and therefore may very well be ſuppoſed to produce thoſe many and great Alterations there, which we have before laid down in our *Hypotheſis*.

And thus, as I conceived my ſelf to have had ſome grounds of hope for a good Effect upon the Parts already mentioned: So likewiſe upon the Cheſt and Lungs themſelves, and that for the ſelf-ſame reaſons before alledged; for they being likewiſe comprehended by this External Medicament, and the Midriff together with them. I did with as full an aſſurance look for a removal of all Flatulenties thence, as from the Region immediately below it. Upon which Iſſue I was induced to believe, that, as there would have been a far leſs diſtention of the Parts; the cauſe which oppreſſed them being by that means taken away: So likewiſe by conſequence, that a much greater Vacancy of Place would neceſſarily have enſued thereupon, and ſo a Courſe come to be found out for a more full and liberal reſpiration.

Theſe, *Sir*, are the Ends I aimed at, and theſe the Medicines I made uſe of in order

to

to the attainment of ſuch Ends, which, what tendency they might have to the purpoſes they were deſigned for, whether any, or none at all; a greater, or a leſs than what ſucceeded in the room of them, though I have alleadged ſomething of reaſon (I am apt to think ſo at leaſtwiſe) for the Vindication of my Proceedings, and could have added much more from my own Experience in other like Caſes: That's a thing however to be left to the Deciſion of ſuch as are wholly unconcerned in the Matter, as being the likelieſt of all others to prove the moſt upright and impartial in delivering their Sentiments thereupon.

'Twas enough for me to be rounded in the Ear by one of the Female Sex; and ſuch are commonly the great Sticklers in matters appertaining to Sick People: That let it be how it would, I might ſet my heart at reſt for that, there being one a coming, that would cauſe all to be taken off again in exchange for a Liniment of *Sperma Cæti* and Oyl of Sweet Almonds; ſhe knew all the Ingredients perfectly well before-hand, and was very ſure it muſt be ſo; becauſe as ſhe remembred, he had been ſent for a little before upon ſomewhat a like occaſion, to a Child of ſome of her Relations obſtructed in the Cheſt; as likewiſe to many other

cond time, which being an Excrement exceeding ſharp and firie above all others, and ſo very prone withal to be gadding up into the Head, is by this Act of Cohobation (as it were) rendred much more ſo then it was before; and therefore may very well be ſuppoſed to produce thoſe many and great Alterations there, which we have before laid down in our *Hypotheſis*.

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Theſe, *Sir*, are the Ends I aimed at, and theſe the Medicines I made uſe of in order

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to the attainment of such Ends, which, what tendency they might have to the purposes they were designed for, whether any, or none at all; a greater, or a less than what succeeded in the room of them, though I have alleadged something of reason (I am apt to think so at leastwise) for the Vindication of my Proceedings, and could have added much more from my own Experience in other like Cases: That's a thing however to be left to the Decision of such as are wholly unconcerned in the Matter, as being the likeliest of all others to prove the most upright and impartial in delivering their Sentiments thereupon.

'Twas enough for me to be rounded in the Ear by one of the Female Sex; and such are commonly the great Sticklers in matters appertaining to Sick People: That let it be how it would, I might set my heart at rest for that, there being one a coming, that would cause all to be taken off again in exchange for a Liniment of *Sperma Cæti* and Oyl of Sweet Almonds; she knew all the Ingredients perfectly well before-hand, and was very sure it must be so; because as she remembred, he had been sent for a little before upon somewhat a like occasion, to a Child of some of her Relations obstructed in the Chest; as likewise to many others

where ſhe had been, and he had alwayes practiſed the ſame Method; inſomuch that though two Doctors in one of the places had clubb'd their Counſels together, and agreed upon a certain Plaiſter appoſite every way (as they thought) for the Diſtemper they had adviſed about; yet upon the Approach of this prodigiouſly knowing man of it went immediately for that other of his appointment, which was to be eſteemed of as much the better.

Some of the ſame Sex were very importunate with me to have had a Vein opened without farther delay, becauſe there were ſome few Streaks of Blood diſcernable in the Matter of her Salivation, what times her Spitting and Vomiting uſed to follow her much together; which I being diſſatisfied in, conſidering her low and weak condition, wiſhed them to have patience a little, till they had conſulted his better Judgment, who might poſſibly for ſome wiſe Reaſons, not at all appearing to my ſhallow Underſtanding, be much more inclinable than I could tell how to be, to concur with them in their Opinion: which Conjecture proved juſt according to what I had foretold; for before ever I could ſo much as ſet a foot over the Threſhold, or be permitted to offer one Syllable of what I had to ſay, either for

for or againſt it, the Decree was irrevocably gone forth: Let ſeven Ounces of Bloud be taken from her Arm. And when I had deſired for my ſhare; but the continuance of the Plaiſter before mentioned moſt humbly ſhewing my reaſons for that, as I thought but modeſt requeſt: 'Twas held a Boon too unconſcionable to be granted; but all muſt be ordered preciſely according to his own way and method. And 'twas honour enough to me to be the *Amanuenſis* to ſo learned a man. And yet for all, that, thongh in the height of pride and arrogance, 'twas an impoſſible thing to wedg inſomuch as one ſhort word, I ſhall take the boldneſs, now matters are cool again, to do ſomewhat more, and make a Survey of the whole Preſcription: and when I have done that, and made ſome few Queries concerning it; refer it to your ſelf and all the world to judge, whether there be any thing more to be found (ſetting aſide meer ſpruntneſs of Temper, and an exceſs of Self-conceit) in this Man of Renown ſo much talked of, than in others his Neighbours he lives amongſt: or indeed, to ſpeak in a more Debaſing Stile by far, than in ſome of us, plain, honeſt Country Phyſitians; and that's a Degradation with a Witneſs.

But before I proceed one jot farther, It may and will be neceſſary to obviate an objection

jection, which cannot I confeſs but be apt to ariſe in the minds of ſome ; and that is, how it can be poſſible for me to make reflections upon the actions of a perſon I have formerly ſeemed to concur withall ; and call into queſtion the doing of that which in ſome ſenſe I may truly enough be ſaid to have had a hand in the doing of my ſelf.

To which I anſwer the matter of our immediate concernment, dividing it ſelf into theſe two Branches: The One of them touching her being Let Bloud ; and the other the fitneſs of the Medicaments at that time preſcribed to be made uſe of. The firſt of theſe being done, not only without my conſent, but clearly againſt it: I am left at liberty to ſhew my diſlike of that, and declare my reaſons; when I have ſo done, without giving colour to any whereon to ground any the leaſt cauſe of exceptions againſt me for it.

Secondly, it being poſſible to joyn with another, as well in a Paſſive, as an Active Senſe ; and to do a thing rather by conſtraint, than from any real impulſe of ones own natural inclinations. It may be pardonable enough to proteſt againſt that at one time which one has been neceſſitated unto at another. And you Sir, who are a Phyſician, and cannot chuſe but be ſenſible what it is

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to have a Patient, of whoſe concerns you have been equally tender, as if they were your own, raviſhed forcebly out of your hands through the blind zeal of a Pack of (which though otherwiſe wiſe enough, yet as to ſuch matters as theſe, I may truly ſay) ignorant Relations, who muſt have their wills obeyed, though to the ruine of their Friend; and then to have had odd Tricks, and wild Experiments tried upon ſuch a one before your face, and in ſpight of your teeth; and after all this, to be in danger of being uſed much worſe when out of your ſight. Surely theſe are things which though they may poſſibly be apt at the firſt to ſet Choller a little a working; yet upon a better deliberation, and a more ſerious review may ſeem to have as natural an effect an other way; and that is to excite to a little compliance, though it ſhould be ſomewhat againſt the Hair; ſeing tis a vain thing to make reſiſtance, and 'twere but meerly to obſerve how a poor Patient were dealt withall, aud what became of ſuch a one at the laſt.

There is a Violent, as well as a Natural Motion; and both may be allowed of, as expedient, according as the Caſe may be; and 'tis Excuſe lawful enough ſometimes for the Obliquity of a mans Actions, that he had it not in his power to have done otherwiſe

therwiſe, The very Heavenly Bodies themſelves, though allowed of on all hands, to be the moſt Regular in their Courſes, all ſave one of them, though they may have diſtinct Principles of Motion within themſelves, are forced notwithſtanding; to give place to one that is quite contrary, becauſe violent from without; and the bare hope of being thereby put into a capacity of doing ſome future good, has even in the account of State-Policy, been looked upon as a ſufficient diſpenſation for the commiſſion of ſome faults which ought not otherwiſe to have been born withal,

But the way I ſhall chuſe to take to, as touching this ſecond particular, ſhall be to reſolve of nothing that is at all diſputable my ſelf, but barely to make a repreſentation of what was acted, for others to paſs Sentence concerning it. And being in a manner forced upon the Vindication of my own Method, endeavour to do it in ſuch a way and manner, as to make it obvious to every vulgar Underſtanding, that is not bent to be croſs; and poſſeſſed with too great a prejudice before hand, which had been the ſafeſt, and conſequently the moſt eligible of the two. And ſo long as I hold cloſe to theſe Limitations premiſed, can be content barely to ſtate matters of

Fact

Fact: Querie about things doubtful, and leave them ſtill undecided as to any determination of my own: I don't ſee wherein I am to be looked npon as running Counter to any former engagements, but may reſt ſecure of the leaſt imputation that can become chargeable upon me upon that account.

And firſt of all, in order to the making good what has been thus ſolemnly undertaken; it may be hugely well worth the while to enquire into the doubty reaſons that ſhould infer ſo abſolute a neceſſitie for the letting ſo aged a Perſon Blood, and that after ſhe had lain ill for ſo long a time; and not only ſo, but why the ſelf-ſame experiment that had been tried but juſt before to ſo little purpoſe; all circumſtances remaining in a manner much the ſame, ſhould come to be put in practice a ſecond time. [illegible]s to be noted, that after ſhe had been blouded; and obſerved to fail inſtantly upon it: and that that Account had been given to the great Oracle of Learning: He returns them back anſwer without the leaſt ſcruple or heſitancie, that the ſame Action was by all means to be repeated, and which for this only reaſon was omitted to be performed, becauſe what time the Meſſenger could be back to deliver his charge; ſhe was in the judgment

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of all the By-ſtanders in a dying condition.

Theſe are all ſuch Puzling Queſtions, and ſuch perfect Riddles to me (and ſo I am apt to believe they muſt appear to all others beſides that are not utterly deſtitute of their thinking faculties) that I cannot chuſe but ſtand in admiration, that any who pretends to either common ſenſe or honeſty (to ſay nothing at all of knowledg in Phyſick) ſhould ever take the freedom of letting himſelf looſe to ſuch Giddy-brain'd Extravigancies. Surely, this, if any thing may well be accounted of as down-right trifling in the moſt important Affairs; a kind of playing at Croſs and Pile with Peoples Lives. Unleſs we ſhould rather term it a ſpecious way of propounding Remedies much more deadly than the Diſeaſe it ſelf.

But thoſe who are willing to be thought Learned *Rabbies*, and Wiſe Men, are ſeldom to ſeek of a Reaſon for their doings, though their Reaſons ſometimes may fail of being true. The Cauſe alleadged, as I well remember, for the taking away of Bloud the firſt time; and 'twas no doubt, upon thoſe very miſtaken Grounds, that the ſame Method was preſcribed to be uſed again afterwards, was, that 'twas a Pluriſie of the Lungs: and all Pluriſies making a dreadful ſound, becauſe ſo univerſally

niverſally requiring Bloud: This with the Adaption of a New Name, the By-ſtanders knew not well what to make of; but ſuſpecting however the worſt to lie at Bottom; It went down as glibly with them, as 'twas uttered gracefully by the Speaker. And yet all thoſe, who have the leaſt ſmattering in either *Grammar* or *Logick*, will tell us; That a Pluriſie of the Lungs, is no leſs a Solæciſm in Speech, than a Podagra in the Hand, or a Cheiragra in the Foot; becauſe if the Denomination be ſuppoſed to be taken from the Pleura, which is the Skin incompaſſing the innermoſt part of the Cheſt; Then nothing elſe beſides can be properly ſaid to be affected with that Diſtemper upon any account whatever in contradiſtinction to that Part. But all the moſt charitable Conſtructions are to be allowed to ſome Mens Words and Actions, and little enough: and 'tis to be preſumed, that thoſe who have a vaſt Employment in the World, cannot be at leiſure always to ſpeak Senſe; and 'twould be a great deal of pity to tie ſuch up ſtrictly to words, who abound with copious matter; and who can never be ſuppoſed ignorant of the true meaning of the thing, let their Expreſſions be never ſo abſurd.

Wherefore to let paſs ſuch poor advantages as theſe; as not worthy the taking notice of. I ſhall chuſe rather to inſiſt on another courſe, as both comporting much better with my own *Genius*; and (if I am not miſtaken) much more ſubſervient to my deſign, which tends not ſo much to the expoſing a Ridiculous Expreſſion as to the making diſcovery of an Enormous Deed. For the better effecting whereof I ſhall take leave to lay down this firm and undeniable Poſition: to wit, that every pain in the Side, that is accompanied with a Cough, and a mixture of a little Bloud with the Spittle, is not a ſufficient argument from whence to infer a Pluriſy, be it of what part of the Body it will; whether of the Lungs or Cheſt, it makes no great matter; and therefore all ſuch as ſhall fall to Bleeding of their Patients without Reſtraint; upon no better a pretence than that, may chance to repent it afterwards when they come to bethink themſelves better; and ſo may all ſuch as have been ſo fooliſhly credulous as to truſt to their raſh advice. No, there are other Symptoms to be attended to of equal regard with theſe: And when ever they are found wanting, the Diſtemper is to be looked upon, and really is ſo, of a different nature from a Pluriſie, whatever a haſty man may be apt

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to conclude to the contrary. Ile' inſtance only in a Concomitant Feaver, which is chiefly to be regarded above the reſt: and that was never diſcernible in this Lady during the time of her whole ilneſs excepting only when an Ague-Fit was upon her; and then 'twas impoſſible it ſhould be otherwiſe, and juſt the Morning before ſhe was let Bloud; what time her Pulſe was obſervable to ariſe a little more than ordinary: but as for the conſtant Tenour and Temperament of her Body, 'twas for the moſt part moderately cool, (bating the inflamation in and about her Throat) and her Pulſe but low and ſmooth: and albeit there was ſome ſmall mixture of Bloud to be ſeen in the matter of her ſpitting, yet withal 'tis to be remembred what has been already obſerved, that 'twas uſually at ſuch times when a Fit of Vomiting had gone before: and then what ſo great wonder is it, if a violent compreſſion of the parts of the Cheſt ſhould prove the occaſion of a little iſſuing forth of Bloud there, eſpecially where the Veſſels are weakeſt, and put moſt upon the ſtreſs: and then why might not a Medicine that had been proper for the reſetling of the Stomach have been adjudged a very good ſtep towards the removing this inconveniencie alſo? I ſhould have thought for my own part it might have done

every

every whit as well: but all are not of the ſame mind, never were, nor never ſhall be: and what paſſes for ſenſe with one, and really is ſo, may yet be decried for folly by another. And there are a proud ſort of People in the world, old-excellent at beating down a good opinion, and when they have ſo done, ſetting up another, that is ſtark naught, in the room of it: and as they have a facultie of ſlighting whatever ſuits not with their own perverſe humours, ſo that which does, ſhall be ſure to be made the moſt of, and it be for this only reaſon, that 'tis a darling of their own fathering, if not begetting: and becauſe they are pretty well aſſured before hand of the facil natures of the people they are to deal withal, whom they know willing to be impoſed upon by every ſilly pretence and idle imagination.

And yet I am fully perſwaded, that all ſuch as are not too unreaſonably much biaſſed in their judgments already, and can but be content to ſtay the examining a matter under all its circumſtances with a little ſerioúſneſs, will ſoon be brought to give in their Virdicts. That let what other courſe in nature imaginable have been looked upon as poſſible to have done her good. Bloud-letting however muſt

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in all likelihood have been exempted from that Catologue, and on the contrary, that all thoſe that would have gone the right way to have continued her Breath longer in her Body, eſpecially when reduced to ſo very low an Ebbe; muſt have laid it down as one of their firſt Principles to have kept her Bloud ſtill running in her Veines.

The Matter is as Tranſparent as Chryſtal, unleſs it be to ſuch as are as precipitate in their Councells, as they are poſt-haſt in all their Journeys they undertake.

The only Reaſon why *Phlebotomie* is ſo generally agree'd on on all hands: In the Caſe of Pleuriſies being no more in ſhort but this; becauſe there neither is, nor can be any Pleuriſie in nature, but what univerſally implies a Feaver, as that again a Fermentation and Ebullition within the Bloud. And though a Feaver be commonly reckoned amongſt the infallible Marks whereby to judg of a Pleuriſie; as if ſo be it were ſomething in nature of a later date than it; or that by force of its cauſalitie had ſome dependance thereupon, upon which ſcore we have been induced to give it the Apellation of Concomitant: The Learned will inform us, that theſe words though ſpoken

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in the Vulgar, are yet to be underſtood in the Senſe, the Wiſe intended them; and then Feavers will be found to be ſo far from being Symptomatical, that the Original of Pleuriſies will be rather owing unto them. And for the ſake of this Fermentation alone it is, that Bleeding is held to be of ſuch indiſpenſible neceſſity: for were but that away, there could be no colourable pretence for Boud-letting at all; becauſe ſo long as ever the Bloud continues in a Mediocrity of Temper, and ſo long it does; whilſt there is nothing of Fermentation in it; it cannot but paſs along ſmoothly, and uniterruptedly within the Veſſels, as waters when they are low move peaceably in their own Channels. But when once the Febrile Matter comes to be ſet a working, and the Fermentation to ariſe to ſome height; the Caſe is then different from what formerly it was; and the whole Maſs of Bloud appears to be clearly another thing; Its motions becoming now much more brisk and vigorous, and it's courſe more rapid; and like the violent ſtreams occaſioned by a Land-floud, it neither knows how to flow quietly as it ought, nor yet to be confined within its appointed Bounds, but as 'tis apt to ſwell high upon every

the leaſt hindrance; ſo likewiſe to force open a wrong Paſſage, as opportunity ſhall be given, and ſo becomes extravaſate, and breeds Annoyance to the parts it lies upon, which if we will ſpeak to the point in hand, is the formal reaſon of all Pleurities: for where-ever the Blood and Humors are extravaſate, there will Tumefaction, for the moſt part, of courſe ariſe; That, and Diſunion of the Veſſels, if upon membranous parts, infer pain; but pain brings on inflammations; which by as neceſſary a conſequence, attract a greater affluence of humors to the ſame place; which, by their coming on, produce a yet farther degree of heat, & that again affects the whole Maſs of Blood, by drawing it into a conſent, and ſo the Rupture is made wider, and all other Symptoms depending upon theſe, ariſe together in proportion with them. And now the Blood paſſing by way of Circulation in a full Channel through the Cheſt; and it being abſolutely neceſſary for the preſervation of humane Life, that a continual reſpiration ſhould be maintained and kept up there which being impoſſible to be performed otherwiſe than by a frequent dilatation of the Lobes of the Lungs, it comes to paſs, that it meets uſually with greater oppoſition in the Cheſt, than in any other part of the Body beſides; and this is the beſt account I know of, that can be given of the ſo frequent falling out of Pleurities. And when the Caſe ſtands thus, there is no other courſe imaginable, always a reſpect had to the Ability of the Patient, but to breath a Vein immediately; and ſo to give check to this impetuous motion; and 'tis abſolutely as clear and unqueſtionable a Method to ſlake its Fury, as the ſubſtracting Fuel from a boiling Cauldron, is a means to reſtrain its heat; or

the deriving Waters from a Veſſel almoſt top full already, is, to prevent its running over.

And whenever ſpitting up of Blood, and a pain in the ſide proceeds from the Cauſes before recited, that Phyſitian, who is againſt the letting his Patient blood (where ſtrength permits) may very juſtly be looked upon in the eſteem of all, as the Deſtroyer of his Life; becauſe he defers the uſing the Means, which in probability was the moſt likely to have effected the Cure; according to the known Axiom, *Qui vult Finem, vult etiam Media ad Finem.*

But then on the other hand, he that will needs be taking away of Blood at meer random and rovers, without any neceſſity putting him upon it, nay, when there was all the reaſon in the world, why he ſhould much rather have let it alone; under a pretence of I know not what imaginary Diſcovery no where to be found, unleſs it be among the wild *Chimæra's* of his own Phantaſtical Brain, deſerves in my Opinion, the ſame ſeverity of Cenſure which the other did; becauſe ſuch an one, by his unadviſedneſs, deſpoils his Patient of that Blood, which he had not haply to ſpare, and conſequently could not loſe: without a manifeſt prejudice to his Health, and ſo runs him upon a Miſchief alike dangerous with the former; it being poſſible to attain the ſame End, not only by divers, but even contrary courſes; as we know thoſe who depart from one another directly North and South, may yet arrive both at the ſame Point, if they do but hold on their Journey, and keep conſtant to their Meridian.

There is doubtleſs a Time and a Seaſon to be obſerved for all things under the Sun: The Wiſe man hath

hath long ago taught us that Leſſon; and Common Reaſon and Experience ſeems every day to inculcate it unto us. There is a Riſe, and a Stay, and Decreaſe in both Perſons and Things, and every one of theſe different Circumſtances ſtands in need of a diſtinct manner of conſideration; ſo as that, what is proper at one time, may be look'd upon as exceeding unfit to be done at another. And if at the beginning of a Diſeaſe, when the Blood is rank and high, it may ſeem perchance to call for ſome moderate Correction, it follows not from thence, that the ſame Method is to be inſiſted upon afterwards, when the Body has been weakned by long Sickneſs. And albeit thoſe who have Youth, and Strength, and Nature on their ſides, may well enough depart with ſome ſuperfluous Humors, as the Caſe may be; yet ſuch as are paſt theſe Advantages, are not to be ſo dealt withal. An Aged perſon is ſcarcely to be let Blood upon any conditions; & if at all, ſurely much rather at the coming on, than the declination of a Diſtemper. And therefore that Phyſitian, who upon the Bleeding ſuch an one, ſhall perceive him to fall into an apparent ſinking condition, and yet perſevere in the repetition of the ſelf-ſame courſe again, diſcovers himſelf to be a man of a moſt perverſe and obſtinate Spirit; who, ſo he can but ſatisfie his own ambitious humour of being willing to be thought never to be in the wrong, cares not what Miſchief he does to poor innocent Creatures, who put their Lives into his hands, and reſign up themſelves by an implicit Belief to the guidance of his Opinion. Methinks it ſhould be an Argument to ingenuous Natures to be the more truſty, by how much the more they find themſelves to be truſted; and to be therefore the more ſcrupulous of doing an Injury, by how much

the more they perceive it left to the Liberty of their wills, to do an Injury if they pleaſe: But there are ſome in the world ſo highly conceited of their own dear ſelves, they had rather die the Death than acknowledge a Fault; and therefore no wonder they had rather others ſhould do ſo, than be reduced to the ſame Inconvenience. And yet this being liable to Miſtakes, is a Matter ſo very common, nay a property indeed ſo inſeparable from humane Nature, that he whoſe demeanor is ſuch, as if he believed himſelf exempted from that which is every ones lot, deſerves, in my mind, rather to be pitied for his real folly, than envied at for that imaginary preheminence he is apt to fancy to himſelf, above all other men.

And ſeeing the ſo much controverted Point of Phlebotomy lights ſo directly in our way, it may not be amiſs, before we take leave of it, to enquire into the Cauſes, how it came to gain ſuch footing in the world, that was ſo rarely practiſed, and with ſo great caution and warineſs in former times. Certain it is, that mens Bodies are for ſubſtance now the very ſame they were heretofore: And if we peruſe ancient Authors, we ſhall find the Definitions of Diſeaſes to be likewiſe much the ſame. As for the Climates we live in, they are as unalterable as the Heavenly Bodies which make them; and men were every whit as ingenious, and learned, and wiſe then, as they are now; and yet to one that was let Blood amongſt the Ancients, we may oppoſe Multitudes of our own experience; there being ſcarce a Diſeaſe incident to mans Body, for which Blood-letting is not preſcribed by ſome or other as a principal Remedy: And thoſe whoſe Opinions ſcarcely agree in any one thing beſides, are obſer-

obſerved however oft-times to concur in this, the breathing of a Vein, and taking away a little blood, ſo that it may ſeem now to paſs amongſt us for a kind of a *Catholicon*; the help at a dead Lift, and being ſo oft made uſe of, for contrary Ends & Purpoſes, to become the only *Medium* that was ever yet found out for the reconciling contradictions; a thing hitherto believed impoſſible, and beyond the power of Omnipotency; and therefore what can in no wiſe be freed from the imputation of a contradiction in it ſelf.

Surely, there muſt be ſomewhat of Myſtery in this Matter, more than what is commonly diſcerned, and therefore to be at a little pains about the ſearching into the Reaſons thereof, may perchance deſerve to be accounted of as ſomething more than barely loſt Labour, if it be but to give light into ſome mens Actions, which might be apt to paſs otherwiſe unobſerved, and to caution divers unwary people how to behave themſelves when they come to be concerned in a like Caſe.

I have heard one Bird chirp a different Note from all the reſt of the Wood beſides; and if we may believe him, the Original of that pernicious Cuſtom was firſt of all derived from the *French* Nation; from which all the reſt of our New Modes and Faſhions do receive their Inſtitution. The Phyſitians amongſt them, had ſo long time intruſted the Apothecaries with the peruſal of their Bills, and the making up of their Medecines; and they on the other hand, by their obſequious demeanour and diligent attendances, had ſo far forth gained upon the good Opinion of their Patients, that at laſt they e'en made bold to take upon them the Profeſſion of

Doctors themſelves, and to adminiſter Phyſick o their own Heads, without ſo much, as ſtaying for the others either Leave or good liking.

And when the Phyſicians objected their want of Skill, and buſying themſelves about ſuch Matters, as they had never been bred up to, and conſequently had nothing to do to meddle withal; they Nicked them again, by ſhewing the People a way how to ſave Fees; and few being ſuch infidels, as not to believe what ſeemingly made for their profit, though otherwiſe attended poſſibly with many real and preponderating Diſadvantages, which they could not be wrought upon ſo throughly to apprehend. A great number of wealthy perſons, who had Money good ſtore in their Purſes, to have paid an able Phyſitian for his Advice, had they ſo pleaſed, but not Brains enough in their Heads to underſtand wherein the Fallacy lay, that was put upon them, inſtead of ſending for a Doctor when they came to be ſick, would take a ſhorter Cut by half, and only apply themſelves to the Apothecaries.

How this was reliſhed by all ſuch, whoſe Intereſt lay at ſtake, and were made ſufferers thereby, is no whit hard to conjecture; and yet it would have mended the Matter but little to have uſed many Words in diſputing the Caſe with ſuch as were bent upon their own ways; and to leſs purpoſe would it have been openly to have fretted and fumed at it (though there's no doubt to be made, but that in ſecret many did both) eſpecially ſeeing the minds of men are generally ſo perverſe as to be but the more forward for the doing of a thing, by how much they perceive others whom they delight to vex, to be offended at their Actions.

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Whereupon ſome of the Phyſitians who had more wit, and leſs honeſty then the reſt, bethought themſelves of a timely Expedient to put an end to this ſo growing a miſchief, before it was too late, to regain their reputation amongſt the people they were now more then in danger of loſing, & bring back their wandering Patients, that had gone aſtray from them, and all this without any noiſe, or the leaſt ſuſpition of being detected in what they went about.

They agreed amongſt themſelves, whenever they ſhould be ſent for, to adviſe concerning a Patient, to bleed him at all adventures by one joynt, and common conſent; and if it ſo fell out, that it had been done beforehand by any one ſingly, and of himſelf, then they which came afterwards were to juſtifie the Action, by giving it an approbation.

'Tis beyond beliefe how the project took effect, how it over-ran all *Paris*, and the parts adjoyning immediately, and like a train of Gunpowder blew up the poor dull Apothecaries with all their little pretences and ſhifts, before ever they were aware, ſo much as who hurt them, or from whence it was that the blow came; and not only ſo, but the continuance of the cuſtom has been a means to keep them in a good Decorum ever ſince, who had otherwiſe been ſtill as they were wont to be, before they had that trick put upon them, moſt intolerably inſolent and impatient of all controule.

For ſome of the Ring-leaders being perſons of known abilities, and they beginning the dance, and the reſt generally following their example; The people all (like a Herd of Deer at a ſudden noiſe) were ſurpriſed with admiration, brought to ſtand at a Gaze, and could not tell well what to think of it, they had natural Logick enough to infer, that if lear-

ned Doctor such a one, and such a one, were clearly for bleeding their Patients, and then that' and if such and such great persons, eminent for wisdom and authority in the nation, submitted to that way of cure, surely the thing must needs be reasonable, if not absolutely necessary; and if it were proper for one, why not for another, seeing rich and poor, gentle and Simple are all made of the same mold, and then how could they tell but that their own condition might stand in need of the same remedy, as well as others; And then how much, or how little at a time, or whether or no the action were to be repeated were all new Questions, and weighty ones too, and therefore such as required a more then ordinary skill to give a determination concerning them.

And albeit they could formerly have been pretty well content to have trusted an *Ignoramus*, with the giving them a glister, or a purge, or something to sweat withal, and so after an enterance made with some one or more of these, had suffered themselves oft-times to be wheadled in further, then ever they intended at the first; yet believe me this same taking away of blood seemed to be a business of such high concernment, that they all began to be clearly of opinion it was not to be committed hand over head, to the management of every Rash and Pragmatical Undertaker.

There are some little things in nature, that prove oft-times the occasion of very considerable effects; and what may be small in it self, may yet be great in its production: A little sparke may be the original of a mighty fire; A little armour rightly disposed of, may do a great deal of good service, and the *Rudder* of a Ship (to take one instance more) though for bulk & substance it be but small, yet of how forcible

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an influence is it, for the turning, and winding about the moſt capacious Veſſels, to whatſoever point of the compaſs, the Maſter thereof himſelf pleaſeth?

And ſo to ſpeak the down right truth of the matter: the piece of artifice wee have been mentioning; however ſlight, and diſpicable, it may ſeem to thoſe, who have neither leiſure; nor it may be Judgment, to conceive of it as they ought: 'Tis realy one of the moſt ſly and politick, and the moſt ſubſervient to the Phyſitians intereſt in its full latitude that was ever yet deviſed by the wit of man, as will appear to all ſuch as ſhall but take notice of theſe gradations following.

Firſt of all an opinion of the neceſſity of frequent Phlebotomie, paſſing for currant amongſt the people; That brings in Phyſitians of courſe, to debate of the weightineſs of the affair, and it be but meerly for this reaſon; The aſtoniſhing horror and amazement humane nature in caſe of this remedy above all others, is more eſpecially affected withal.

Secondly, it ſtates of all ſuch as are not conſtituted legal Phyſitians by whole ſale (as it were) and keeps them either from medling, or making, any thing to the purpoſe, with the adminiſtration of Medicine, and leaves them to whom it rightfully appertaines in the full poſſeſſion & exerciſe of what they deſire.

As for the firſt of theſe, the reaſon thereof is founded upon a principle of Natures own laying, and therefore what ever ſuperſtructure ſhall come afterwards to be well reared thereon, ſhall be ſure to remain unſhaken: The Scripture it ſelf informes us, that the blood of any thing is the life thereof, and provident nature may ſeem to have tinged it with a crimſon colour, on purpoſe to affright, and

ſcare,

ſcare, to the end that men might take the better warning, about the too haſty ſhedding of it: And the impreſſion left upon their thoughts, by that means, comes no whit ſhort of its intended deſignation: There being ſcarcely any one thing, falling within the compaſs of a humane capacity, of a more formidable aſpect; or that ſtrikes with a greater terror, then this doth. Divers there are indeed (though that he be to be looked upon as no part of their commendations) who can be well enough pleaſed at the rehearſal of diſmal ſtories, ſuch as are Wars, Maſſacres and Murders; ſo long as they are acted at a diſtance from them, and kept far enough out of their ſight: but he muſt be a Monſter and not a Man, who can be the ſpectator of ſuch real Tragedies, and yet not feel ſomething of a remorſe the mean while ariſing within his breaſt.

The eye of man, as it virtually includes all the other ſenſes: So is it a faculty which more nearly affects the heart, then any of the reſt beſides; Witneſs that Sympathizing quality, diſcovering it ſelf in moſt men; who though they can afford to be cruel enough, both in their revenge, and corrections, ſo long as they keep to the dealing of dry blows and no more, but when once they come to exceed thoſe bounds, perceive their anger to grow cool again, in an inſtant; of Lyons become Lambs, and have all their outrage converted into pity. And if the obſervation holds generally true when extended unto others, 'tis much more ſo when applied unto our ſelves; it being uſual for the *charity* of moſt to act then ſtrongeſt of all, what time it comes to be brought the neareſt home. And albeit there are many, out of an affectation to be thought ſtout-hearted, care not much (in this vapouring age) for owning any ſuch tenderneſs within themſelves, yet ſuch a thing

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really there is. And there are but few (if any) in the world (let the Climate they were born in happen to be where it will) but muſt have ſo much of the temper of the *Welchman* in them, as to be more then ordinarily tranſported at the ſight of their own blood.

And though it be moſt undeniably true, that there is ſcarce any one thing, about which Phyſitians are commonly called to conſult, but what at one time or other, (if happening to be miſapprehended) may prove of as dangerous conſequence to the life of man, as this of Phlebotomy, that is neither here nor there; ſo long as it appears not with the ſame dreadful ſhape to the view of the parties concerned.

There is a thing called *Argumentum ad hominem*, which is to be made uſe of in caſe it ſhall be found effectual to do the buſineſs; when divers that are much better, and more convincing in their nature, are to be ſet aſide; &therefore Phyſitians in this reſpect;thought good to tranſcribe the copy they found ſet them by the Carpenters; which is to drive that nail, not which ſtands the faireſt in their way, or which they have the greateſt mind to, aboue all the reſt,but that which they perceiveupon many little eſſays made,the moſt inclinable to enter;ſo that if the letting patients ſee their own blood, carries ſo much of terror along with it, above all other Remedies beſides; who ſhould be entertained when a matter of that conſequence comes to be debated about; but thoſe who are ſuppoſed the moſt knowing in the miſtery; And who they are, if mens perverſeneſs will not, their own fears quickly will inform them. And then as for the ſecond; that follows on cloſely and unavoidably upon the conceſſion of the former; not only becauſe it is an eaſy thing to hold a Poſſeſſion,

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where 'tis once obtained, but by reaſon of the conſtant aſſiſtances that are afforded by the forementioned principle; for, and if ſo be it be to be looked upon as dangerous, to acquieſce in the opinion of illiterate perſons, in the important matter of Phlebotomy, at one time, it will be ſo at another; and then rather than not have them finaly excluded, the ſame remedy ſhall evermore be pretended neceſſary, by ſome madheaded Phyſitian or other, & it be but on purpoſe to amuſe the Patient, and fill his head with jealouſies, and croſs the Empericks & Quack-Salvers, in their little deſignes. Elſe what could ever be the reaſon why ſo many ancient, and in a manner bloodleſs people, ſhould have their veins pierced with ſo much eagerneſs upon every ſlight & trivial pretence, as we uſually ſee they are? whence ſhould it come to paſs? that ſo many in the very loweſt declination of their diſtemper, when the whole maſs has been depauperated and ſpoiled? ſo many of weak and windy ſtomacks, ſuch as have ſcarce heat enough within them, ſo much as to digeſt a potched egge, or a little chicken broath, ſhould yet have their languiſhing bodies ranſancked and ſearched into, for that blood and ſpirits, which alaſs they have not to ſpare, and there were ten times more then what there is? and all this by the preſcriptions, and at the command of ſuch as can quote you a Greek, or a Lattin Author, and need be, and derive you a miſapplyed text from the ſage writings, of either *Gallen*, or *Hipocrates*. Either this muſt be the reaſon we have been but now alleaging; or which is a great deal worſe, none at all; unleſs we will take this for one; that proud and ſelf conceited men, have hereby an opportunity put into their hands, of gratifieing their own ambitious (not to ſay Phantaſtical) humours; as being conſtituted by that means, theſole Arbitra-

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tors of, what is believed to be one of the weightiest matters in the whole world; and to have it put into their sole power, to determine thereof, as they think fit.

And so many of them are wont to do indeed with as much carelesness and indifferency of spirit as we find *SVBTIL* in the *Comœdian* dealing out old *MAMMONS* money and coales; take fifteen or twenty ounces, you may take thirty. And then to have a company of shallow witted and impertinent people to look rufully, and be gazing and staring in their faces the mean while, & awaiting the grave sentence from their lips, with as much reverence, and solemnity of behaviour, as those who came for an answer to *DELPHOS* were wont to attend upon the Oracle of *Apollo* there, or others of late times, to listen for a wise word from *Friar Bacons* brazen head, before it burst to pieces; Are all such tickling and transporting considerations (especially if meeting with a base and wretched fancy) that 'tis not impossible, but that many, who have not a head-piece capable of higher antainments, may be apt to rest pretty well satisfied with such empty trifles as these: And to accuse such of Plots, and contrivances, they were never in the least danger of being guilty of, would be a great deal of pity as well as injustice, and therefore I shall make bold to rank such amongst the common herd of Practitioners, who serve only to make up the number of a party, and to write as near as they can, after the copy that has been set them by their Leaders; that so, what they are not able to make good by their own Slender pretences may be backed with the authority of much abler men. Whence it comes to pass, that what some take upon them to do through an excess, The others are allowed to immitate thm in. through a want of wit;

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and ſo knavery is uſed to juſtifie folly: and that a while after fetched back as an argument for the maintainance of Knavery again, becauſe 'tis general practice is only ſufficient to conſtitute a cuſtom; which is ſo far from ſtanding in need of any abetters and friends; that it both ſupports it ſelf, & gives countenance and protection to all that are the Siders with it: but as for ſuch who are ſo ſcrupulous to make matter of doubting, at what is generally believed, they are in common eſteem to be looked upon as Pragmatical, and Buſy-bodies, and ſo not at all to be endured.

But then over and above the two foregoing advantages, there is yet a third of very great concernment, in point of intereſt to the whole communitie of Phyſitians; and that alſo ariſing from the before mentioned Unlimited principle, which is not to be paſſed over in ſilence, it is ſo very remarkable, and that is the divers acceptation, the doing of the ſame thing, is wont to meet withal whilſt conſidered as proceeding from different perſons; through the working of fancy, and the meer force of imagination: My meaning is that what is allowable in one ſhould be made culpable in another: and as 'tis reported of the pillar of the Cloud which came behind the *Iſraelites* Camp; That it gave Light and Encouragement to their party, but was an occaſion of confuſion and diſorder to the *Egyptians*, which followed after: ſo may it truely be affirmed of this politick fetch ſo much in requeſt of late amongſt ſome, that there is not any one, nay all the other witty and wily ways of contrivance put together, that could poſſibly have been thought on, from the beginning of time to this day, that could ever have ſtood them in ſo much ſtead, nor yet given a more mortal blow to the wounding of their adverſaries, and weakening of

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their cauſe, then this has done; Nay at that very ſame inſtant, when 'tis ſuppoſed to be made uſe of by the others, and that upon the ſelf ſame occaſion as it would have been by their own ſelves. This is ſomewhat ſtrange, may ſome one ſay, & ſo no doubt it will ſeem to all ſuch as ſhall peruſe theſe lines, at the firſt appearance: but the reaſon of the thing will inſtantly prove it ſelf, if a little reflected upon, without the trouble of much ſtraining or farr fetched deduction.

As for Example:

Let one, who is a Phyſitian, take away any determinate quantity of blood, from his Patient, whether it be right, or whether it be wrong, 'tis not to be queſtioned, but that ſome arguments or other, may be produced in order to the juſtification of ſuch a way of proceeding. Now, and if ſo be the ſame Party (either ſooner or later it makes no great matter) comes to gather ſo much ſtrength as to be ſeen abroad again; who would offer to be ſo uncivil as to deny the working of a great cure; though perchance he might have done every whit as well, if not much better without it: nay 'tis not impoſſible but that this loſs of blood may have ſet the man into a langniſhing condition for many years to come, notwithſtanding this preſent ſhew of amendment, or elſe diſpoſed his body for ſome ſecond fit of ſickneſs at another time; or which is yet worſe, be the occaſion, in the long run, of the taking away ſomething from the number of his days: & yet none of all theſe things, becauſe either at a diſtance, or out of the reach of the obſervation of the parties concerned, ſhall ever come to be taken notice of, to the Phyſitians prejudice, yea, if he ſhould chance to die that preſent

preſent Fit; there could be no more ſaid, becauſe 'tis ſuppoſed no more could have been done; the means having been uſed, and a legal Phyſitian conſulted withal, who was in his way, and acting within his own Sphere, and therefore, what has any body to do to meddle or make about the calling him to an account, for his preſcriptions, and ſo the buſineſs is left as it was found, without any further enquiry.

Whereas on the other hand, let the paltery Emperick, but Ape the Phyſitian herein, as he is wont to do in other matters, it proves no leſs then the very bane and downfall to all his projections, and the firſt time he fails of ſucceſs, as 'tis impoſſible he ſhould hold out long; what ever he has been ſpending his cares about with ſuch unwearied diligence, from firſt to laſt, flies all away *in fumo* immediately. The bubbles he has been raiſing, reſolve all into nothing, and the caſtles he has been building in the air, are all demoliſhed while you wink; and then, though it may be not till then, all the former paſſages of his life, that are liable to any, the leaſt cauſe of exception, come all to be ſurveyed & looked into; then 'tis who made him a Phyſitian? and whence came he by his skill? his Extraction and Education, the way & manner of his life are all laid open to publick view, and ſeverely deſcanted upon, which might have paſſed unobſerved ſtill as hitherto they had done, had it not been for this unlucky accident falling out, that ſuch a one, as he is forſooth, muſt be blooding ſick people of his own head, & without any further advice; it is only the remembrance of that which ſtirs their ſpleens, and awakens their indignation, ſo that though the man might have been realy bad enough; yet his ſo bold meddling in this one dangerous concern, occaſionally renders him much

much more odious in all the other actions of his life, then happily he might otherwiſe have ſeemed to have deſer ved.

And thus have I endeavoured, to ſhew upon theſe ſeveral accounts, how ſerviceable a device this unlimited bleeding of ſick people, is apt to prove to the Common-wealth of Phyſitians in general, & could the matter have reſted here, and might it have been but permitted for as many of the profeſſion to have diſſented from this way, as had had a mind to it, and to have uſed their own liberty as they ſaw occaſion; it might for ought I know have been never a whit prejudicial to the Common-wealth of men neither, but have paſſed for a queſtion not very eaſy to be reſolved, whether the entire body of the Nation, upon the whole of the matter, would haue been a ſaver, or loſer thereby: becauſe that albeit it can in no wiſe be denied, but that divers particular members, may have already, & do daily receive a very conſiderable detriment upon that ſcore. 'Tis a matter of no ſmall importance however to be freed from thoſe ſwarms of ſeducing Empericks, that would have been every where up & down, buzzing the peoples heads to their exceeding much greater inconvenience, had this expedient never been found out. True it is there are too too many of them at preſent, and ſo no queſtion there will always be in ſpight of all the contrivances, that can poſſibly be invented, or honeſt & induſtrious Care that can any ways be uſed to the contrary; but for ought I know there might have been ten times more then there are, and ſure I am, they would have been much more pernicious, becauſe much bolder in their attempts, were it not for ſo witty (though I muſt needs ſay withal overpolitick) a piece of ſubtilty to give check to their exorbitances. And therefore though we neither ought

to do evil our ſelves, that good may come of it, nor yet abett or juſtifie the doing of it in others; 'tis a thing however poſſible to be done: And when it does ſo fall out, they only, who have had a hand in the encouragement or practice thereof, are to be made accountable for it.

But matters, as to the preſent conſtitution of affaires, are ſo much altered, and the Scene ſo exceedingly ſhifted, and changed, from what it was formerly; that what through the prevalency of a Tyrannical cuſtom, on the one hand, and the Pride and Ambition of ſome few Phyſitians on the other (who by their good Wills would have none live by their profeſſions beſides themſelves) The Controverſie now lies not ſo much between Phyſitians and Apothecaries, or Phyſitians and any other ſort of Empericks beſides: as between one Phyſitian and another. And as 'twas ſaid of the *Spaniſh* Inquiſition of old: though it was invented at firſt, as a Trap only to catch *Moors*; yet that it proved afterwards a ſnare to the moſt upright & conſcientious amongſt the *Chriſtians*: ſo here the ſelf ſame principle, which has ſerved all along, for the ſuppreſſion of deluding *Quack-Salvers* & the diſcountenancing publick enemies of all ſorts, is at length turned with an equal force againſt the honeſt Phyſitians, as ever it was againſt the worſt of them. And to ſuch a heighth is the Tyde now ſwollen, & with ſuch a mighty ſwiftneſs does the Channel flow, there is no ſtreching out ſo much as a hand againſt it, & it is no leſs then preſent drowning, not to be carried along with the ſtream. To preſume to controvert what is generally taken upon truſt, or warranted by intereſt, and prejudice, and folly to boot (as has been ſhewn at large) is become a crime unpardonable: all one indeed as to confeſs ones ſelf a croſs-grained and illiterate Dunce, and to know nothing

nothing what belongs to the art of Phyſick. and a Phyſitian (as the caſe now ſtands) is driven either to forego his reaſon, and refuſe to be any longer ſubject to the dictates of his own conſcience; or elſe to leave of meddling in his calling, and to put himſelf quite out of all; one of the two, unleſs he can be content to live a life exerciſed with perpetual Janglings, and Diſcord; and to be pointed at, as a meer antick for offering to ſtick to a faſhion almoſt utterly deſerted, and which very few or none at all care for appearing in, beſides himſelf; which tho' Superannuated of late, is not ſo old neither, but that ſome now living, can very well remember, to have been held in good eſteem, when there were a majority of Votes, and thoſe of the beſt and wiſeſt men here in *England* for it; but then it was before the *French* Modes had in this, (as in all other things) ſo generally prevailed amongſt us.

I have not forgot my ſelf; what I affirmed e're while, how that the notion amongſt them took almoſt with the ſame haſty ſpeed that it was at firſt propounded. And ſo it did, for they being an active, and nimble ſort of people, were both the more capable of receiving ſuch an impreſſion, and then over and above being addicted to the drinking of much Wine for their ordinary Beverage, whatever loſs they happened to ſuſtain upon the account of bleeding, it was ſo much the better repaired, and made up again that way.

But in *England*, is was entertained far otherwiſe. and ſtoutly reſiſted both by Practitioner and Patient for many years together. And unleſs it were now & then by a whimſycal-pated man, who affected ſingularity, and to be ſeen to tread in a path-way different from all others, it was ſeldome or never put in practice, till here of late; but upon very ſolemn occa-

ſions. And if ever the nation do chance to turn wiſe again, and the ridiculouſneſs of theſe modes come once to be manifeſted to publick view; 'tis not impoſſible, but that this fantaſtical cuſtom of bleeding upon all occaſions, may come to be rejected together with them; but whether they ſhall or not, it follows not by any neceſſary conſequence, that if we ſhould allow them to be our Governours in the Regulation of our Garments, that they ſhould therefore be permitted the ſame power in matters appertaining to our lives. And though wee ſhould ſuffer our ſelves to be ſwayed altogether by fancy, in affairs of ſmaller moment, It may however be hoped, that in time we may be wrought upon in thoſe of a much higher importance (eſpecially after we ſhall have ſmarted ſufficiently for our folly) to take reaſon for our guide.

There are divers grounds might be ſhewn, for the probability of ſuch an expectation as this, ſome whereof have been a little hinted at, in the former part of this diſcourſe. But that which ſhall be made choice of now in the cloſe of all (ſetting all others aſide) ſhall be taken from no other Topick, then the nature of the thing it ſelf, which if but throughly underſtood, and duly attended to, as it ought to be, will ſtand in little need of any farther enforcements to perſwade to a ſteady beliefe thereof: which to the end it may the more effectually be done, let us a little take notice of the ſtructure, and conſtitution of mans body. I name only the body, becauſe that notwithſtanding the ſoul be to be reckoned as a part of the Man, as well as the body, and that the moſt noble one of the two; yet that being for ſubſtance immaterial, and ſo not in the leaſt liable to alteration of it ſelf, belongs not at all to our enquiry, but the body only which is the Organ thereof and Subject to

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so frequent changes and alterations does.

Now Philosophers, and Physitians both; who have been at a great deal of pains to search into the Nature and Original thereof, tell us, and that truly enough, that this Body of ours is at first constituted of the Seed of the Parents, and the Mothers Bloud; how that there being a perfect mixture, and joyning together of the two first within the Womb; and from thence the more noble parts having received their delineation, the bloud of the Mother is at length derived to them, which gives Being to the rest, and augmentation to the whole; and to this latter it is that the *Embryo* owes its farther growth, & accomplishment till it becomes born into the world.

After which time the Infant is still supported by a continual accession of bloud, as it was formerly; with this only difference, that whereas before it had it from the Mother *in specie*, ready prepared to its hand, it now receives it under the form of nutriment, and is it self put to the trouble of some farther alterations to bring it to that pass, as being fitted with Organs and Faculties of its own, subservient to that end; which being an opinion not only founded upon reason, but apparent even to common sense, and Anatomical observation. The truth hereof since first taken up, has never been so much as scrupled at, or entertained with the least hesitancy, (as there was no reason wherefore it should) but passed for currant, and unquestionable Doctrine, even to this very day. And this brief account, though it might have been enough to have satisfied an inquisitive man in very many things, yet as to all it was not; because substances being but unactive of themselves, could not be judged capable of the Alterations observed to be in them, without some superadded qualities to make them so: and therefore

'twas no more than was neceſſary to fetch one ſtep more, and ſearch out what they were; which having done, they fixed upon theſe two as previous to the reſt, to wit, the natural heat, and radical moiſture; and thereupon builded their concluſions, and from thence deduced their inferences; and the reaſon of this, their proceeding was not altogether without probability: for taking notice of the actual warmth they found to be in moſt living Creatures, and a principle of life to lye concealed in Vegetables; even in the very dead of winter, which came afterwards actually to exert and ſhew forth it ſelf at the beginning of the Spring: they were brought to this reſolution to conclude upon a certain, innate heat, to be contained in every Particle of the Body of Man, (which they ſay firſt lives the life of a Plant and Beaſt, before it comes to be advanced to the perfection of a reaſonable Creature, and for ever after to retain the ſame qualities and affections incident to them both) and this to be always founded in a radical moiſture, which it lives and preys upon continually; and which in the concluſion, when that comes to be waſted and ſpent, dies together with it for company. Theſe two qualities they ſuppoſed never long to continue in the ſelf ſame plight and condition; but however to be much more exuberant and vigorous in the beginning, than in the latter end of the life of man; but in the middle to ſeem to ſtand at a ſtay, as being ſet at an equal diſtance between either of the extreams; ſo that diſtinguiſhing his years into theſe ſet-periods of time, Childhood or Youth, middle Age, and old Age; there were ſcarce any conſiderable changes incident to humane Bodies which they were not able to ſalve by virtue of this Hypotheſis; and which might not ſome way or other be reducible to the blending together of theſe

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two qualities diverſly conſidered, as the principal occaſion thereof.

Was the Party but now in his blooming years, freſh, and lively, vigorous, and active; as apt to burniſh in bigth, as to encreaſe in ſtature; 'twas becauſe the conſtitutive principles, out of which he was at firſt made, were as yet near their Original, which being fabricated out of the pureſt Blood, and moſt refined Spirits in Natures choiceſt Laboratory, had not as yet fully attained to the utmoſt of their force; but were ſtill in a capacity of exerting their activity more and more, according as the Nutritive Facultie ſhould be diſpoſed to make uſe of them.

Did the ſame Party ſtand at a ſtay; 'twas becauſe this innate heat had arrived to the utmoſt of its power, beyond which it could not paſs, and was able to do no more than keep up thoſe parts in ſufficient repair it had already under its juriſdiction: and that the moiſture with which it was in conjunction, had arrived to its vertical point alſo. But then, as is uſual in the winter of our years, was there an univerſal decay upon the parts of the whole Man? were the Sinews ſtiff, the Senſes dull, the Muſcles dry and ſapleſs; and did every other Inſtrument and Organ of the Body in proportion unto theſe begin to falter in the execution of the office, for which nature had appointed them? Why there could be no other expected, when the heat and moiſture, that ſhould give vigour, and preſervation to every particular member, had been ſo far waſted and ſpent; and an anſwer taken from that general Topick was looked upon by all as ſatisfactory enough in theſe, and a hundred other the like caſes.

What was the Opinion of the Antients, and the Men of his time concerning this Point: *Ovid*, who was known to be as good a Philoſopher as Poet gives us

clearly to understand in the first Book of his *Metamorphosis*, where he has occasion to describe the repleniſhing of the Earth with thoſe various ſorts of living Creatures, that had been ſwept away with the Floud.

Quippe ubi temperiem ſumpſere, humorque, calorq;
Concipiunt; & ab his oriuntur cuncta duobus:
Cumque ſit ignis aquæ pugnax, vapor humidus omnes
Res creat, & diſcors concordia fœtibus apta eſt.

As if ſo be the Productions of Nature, conſidered in her full Latitude, depended principally upon theſe two.

And *Sennertus* a late Writer, to name no more but them, (as ſuppoſing all others of intermediate Ages, who underſtood themſelves as they ought, to have been of their judgment) Treating upon the ſame Head, ſeems to illuſtrate the matter exceeding fully by a homely compariſon or two, tending to the ſame purpoſe; which if minded with a little attention, may render the conception thereof ſomewhat the more eaſie to be apprehended. Suppoſe ſays he a Veſſel of Wine ſhould be continually drawing out, (or to that effect) and have the empty ſpace filled up again either with water, or a more thin Wine than it ſelf, although the change be not at all perceptible at the beginning of the operation, becauſe of the great diſproportion, that is as then betwixt them; yet in tract of time, when the loſs is more on the one ſide, and the acceſſion far greater on the other, It will be made viſible enough. And the Wine after a long time of mixture, will ceaſe to have any predominance at all over ſuch water, as being rendred much more thin and heartleſs by it. *Etſi enim in locum humidi radicalis aliquid ſemper reponatur, deterius tamen id eſt, habetque ſe ſicut aqua ad vinum, quæ vino permixta id debilius reddit*; Inſtit. lib. 1. cap. 6. And then a while after in the ſame Chapter he compares

pares the natural heat and radical moisture whilst in conjunction together, to the Flame of a Burning Torch, which both wasts, and yet is preserved by the combustible matter thereof at the same time; *Perinde enim ut flamma in lychno oleum aut sebum depascitur, & tandem absumpta materia, ex pabuli inopia extinguitur: ita etiam calor nativus noster, instar flammæ, humidum primigenium depascitur, tandemque humido deficiente, ipse etiam extinguitur.* This was the account, or much to this purpose, given by those of former times, and since: and according to these suppositions and principles, in every thing almost they did, were the Physitians wont to bend their course; and if it shall be said that comparisons are not to be taken for proofs; and that such Notions as these could not but be liable to much uncertainty, because apt to be mistaken; as many of those, who yet contradicted them not, were wont to acknowledg themselves: It must however surely be granted, that in Matters of this abstruse nature, a dimn Light ought to be esteemed of as much better than none at all. And to act according to such Positions as might both have a proportion to the things they related to, as also to one another, and were capable in some measure of obtaining the end for which they were propounded, to be much more allowable, then to leave all to the determination of blind chance; or what is full out as bad, to the capricious humours of a fickle man.

There is neither Circle nor Degree to be found in the Concavous Parts of the Heavenly Bodies, to which they are commonly assigned: nor yet on the Surface of the Earth neither, other than what is placed there by mens fancies: and yet what a huge loss would Astronomers and Geographers be at, had they no such helps as these are to be guided by.

by, to say nothing of Navigators, Architects, Diallers, and several other most ingenious Artists, who find themselves exceedingly holpen by Rules and Directions taken from Positions meerly imaginary in the matters relating to their different employments; and by which they are set in as sure and unerring a Method to order their affairs by, as Demonstration it self is able to chalk out to them.

And though Physitians never were, nor never shall be able to give a through resolution about those various and nice questions, they are necessitated sometimes to be concerned in, with half that positive clearness, that those of many other Professions: are by reason of the nature of many things so treated about by them, admitting of no such evidence; yet without doubt it must needs be a strange piece of indiscretion therefore to reject such common notions, as the wisest, the most sober, and the most inquisitive amongst the Antients have thought good to deliver down to their Successors; and those again such as have been confirmed by the experience, approbation, and authority of several others, every way as knowing and judicious as themselves; which for several Ages together have in a direct *Series* and Order of time still followed one another; because they have not been so full of discovery as might have been wished; or more convincing (as has been said) than the matter would bear. And 'twill be yet a greater degree of madness, when we have so done, to leave our selves nothing of a Rule to walk by; or if we do leave any, such as is obnoxious to the same, if not far greater exceptions, than those which have been so cast off, and rejected by us. Stick we then but to the principles delivered us by our Forefathers: and this licentious way of Bloud-letting will quickly be at an end, as done out of a contempt of,

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& a direct oppoſition againſt them, as may be ſhewn clearly from what has been already laid down; and is eaſie in any caſe that can be inſtanced in, almoſt univerſally to be made out; for either it muſt be done in the time of youth, and then in all probability it cuts that eſtate ſo much the ſhorter, and ſo becomes a haſtener on of middle age; or if it ſo falls out, that the party have arrived to his middle age already; then it puſhes him on a little farther to the ſtate that is next behind that: but if he be paſt his beſt, & in a declining condition, what time the experiment comes to be practiſed, it gives him a lift forward no ſooner, ſtill however, by cauſing him to mend his pace; and advances him ſome few degrees nearer the laſt ſtage he is to conclude his courſe in; and that fits him for the hand of death. And ſo indeed it does in every one of the caſes before put: but becauſe but remotely in the two former, I have only expreſſed that in the laſt of the three eſtates, which was plainly enough implied in every one of them. For if old age be the immediate harbinger to death, & middle age the forerunner of that; then whatever thruſts forward youth towards a ſtate of middle age; and which yet again haſtens on middle age ſo as to cauſe it to approach to the conditon of old age ſooner than otherwiſe it would, may truly enough be ſaid to be the procurer of death to all alike: and ſo by conſequence, whenever *Phlebotomy* ſhall be made uſe of; unleſs it be over-ballanced with the conſideration of a greater evil, which can be no other than an apprehenſion of the ſame thing upon ſome other account to threaten us at a nearer diſtance: it ought to be looked upon as ſuch; and to have a natural ſource and tendency to the producing of the ſame effect.

The force of all, which deductions before ſuppoſed

poſed, depends ſolely and intirely upon the making out of theſe two following Propoſitions. Firſt, that the depriving of the Body of any determinate quantity of bloud whatever, is a never-failing means of ſhortning mans life. And Secondly, that all thoſe ſeveral Ages, into which mans life is capable of being divided, are either ſhorter or longer in proportion to the time of his continuance here in this world.

The latter of which is a *Poſtulatum*, as reaſonable to be granted; as that all the parts of the ſame thing collectively taken, ſhould be neither greater nor leſſer than the whole which ariſeth out of them; and that whenever the whole comes to be ſhrunk into a leſſer Volumn than before, the parts ſhould be imagined to abate of their demenſions in a juſt proportion thereunto. And that whatever it be that occaſions a contraction in the one, ſhould be deemed to have an influence in producing a like effect upon the other at the ſame time, unto each of which aſſertions the more ready aſſent ought to be yielded, becauſe that albeit the whole, and the parts may be called by ſeveral Appellations; yet are they in truth and reality but one and the ſelf-ſame thing. To bring, all which, a little nearer home by a more full and thorough application, It may not be amiſs to caſt our eyes backwards, and obſerve; that in thoſe firſt and primitive times, when Men lived longer upon the Earth, they had each of them their Seaſons of Youth, middle age, and old age as well as we; but they were much more long and comprehenſive than now they are. And the parties who had their Lives meaſured by them, were neceſſitated upon that account to make ſo much the longer pauſe before ever they ſtepped over from one eſtate to another. Whereas upon the cutting ſhort of humane Life in general; Theſe ſeveral Periods were reduced

reduced to a much narrower compaſs: and men as they become ſooner ripe, ſo were they the ſooner rotten. And if we ſhall put all this together, 'twill be no *Parodox* to affirm, that whatever ſhall be the cauſe of ſubſtracting from the number of mens years, if derivable from their firſt Principles, ought to be looked upon as the forwarder of them in their whole paſſage between the Cradle and the Grave; but if accidentally befalling them after their Conception, or Birth, then to be judged of, as having the ſame efficacy upon their Lives for the remaining part, as then behind.

But then as for the former, though it may be equally true with this, yet is it not altogether ſo perſpicuous in every reſpect, that may deſerve conſideration for the Proof of that Particular. I ſay in every reſpect, there being two reaſons to be render'd above all others that may ſeem to infer a neceſſity for the abbreviating Mens Lives upon the taking away of Bloud univerſally, and in all caſes. The one whereof, though it may haply lye plain enough to the underſtanding of every man; and that at the very firſt Propoſal; yet the other does not, but requires ſomething more of deliberation, and heedful attendance thereto, to make it appear to be ſo.

That which is ſo very plain and obvious, is taken from the enfeebling and impoveriſhing the whole Maſs, which is obſerved to enſue upon the loſing of Bloud in any wiſe: it being held for a Rule, that the Bloud of ſuch Creatures as receive their growth and nouriſhment thereby, ought to be accounted of as ſo much the more pure and ſprightly, by how much it ſtands placed nearer its Original; but to become, leſs & leſs ſuch in a proportionable manner, according to its greater or leſs departure therefrom. Whence

Aged

Aged People are ſaid to be, *exucci & exangues*, both Bloudleſs & Sapleſs: not abſolutely & ſimply ſo, but ſuch if compared with others, or with themſelves formerly in the heat & vigour of their Youth; aud upon this Suppoſition alone, it is, that the Succeſſion of People came ever to take place amongſt us; & one Generation to make room for another, as has been held forth to us by the compariſon of Wine & Water mixed together, & ſhall be ſhewn more fully hereafter by the farther Proſecution of an Argument ſomewhat *Analogous* unto this.

The other, from the interruption given thereby, to the act of nouriſhing the Body, which in its regular and due *Oeconomy* ought always to be continued, as being the only poſſible means for the maintaining the heat and moiſture thereof, which are evermore liable to decay, and which according to the Principles of the Ancients, are held to be the two main Supporters of humane Life, as we likewiſe have ſuppoſed; but the way and manner by which this comes to be brought about, being of a conſideration ſomewhat more remote, and likewiſe more intricate to be conceived of. I ſhall for that reaſon take the Liberty of ſteering ſo much the larger a compaſs in order to the explication of it.

As for example, if the Parents be both healthful, and their Bloud ſound, then the moſt refined part thereof which is ſeparated from the reſt, depoſited firſt of all in the Seminal Veſſels, and afterwards in the Womb, for the Production of the Body of the Infant, cannot poſſibly miſs of a moſt exquiſite conſtitution when coming actually to be made that, which Originally it was deſigned for; and if hapning to meet with ſuch a ſupply of nouriſhment as is every way convenient for it, firſt and laſt; and a concurrence of ſuch other circumſtances as are duly

duly required over and above thereunto, there is little doubt to be made but that it will have a duration proportionable to the exactneſs of its compoſition, and the ſucceſsfulneſs it has been attended withal in and through its whole courſe; that is to ſay, that that Party to whom ſuch a Body belongs, and ſuch other additional advantages have together fallen in with it, as have hitherto been ſuppoſed, ſhall have a Life produced even to the extremity of old Age.

Whereas let the Conſtitutive Principles be never ſo well prepared; if the nutriment the Body is to be fed withall, be defective, as to the doing its part; or be the Nutriment never ſo proper; if yet ſome other conditions material to be performed, happen to be omitted, or circumſtances miſapplied, or any external violence to be offered to it; a failure in any one, or more of theſe points, renders all hopes that might have been conceived upon any, or all the other former accounts taken together, utterly void on the other hand, ſhould all other deſirable occurrences have fallen out; and the Seed of the Parents barely to have been faulty, that one deficiency had been enough to have proved a hinderance to all the reſt, and the ſame Perſon, who might otherwiſe have lived long and happily, and enjoyed his health without any interruption for many years together; is for that only reaſon put quite and clean beſide his Biaſs; and either cut off ſuddenly, or caſt into a languiſhing condition (it may be) beyond all poſſibility of recovery. Multitudes of Inſtances might be reckonded up for the making good either of theſe Allegations; but that I am neither left to the liberty of giving my ſelf that Scope, (nor ſhould deſire to take it if I were) as being under the choice, as well as obligation of keeping to that one particular inconvenience

venience that is occasioned almost in all places, by too immoderate *Phlebotomie.*

To prosecute which matter a little further; and yet withall to bottom our discourse upon no other foundation than what we have been laying hitherto; or rather which indeed has been laid ready to our hands by the observations of our Progenitors, in case of the good disposition and natural healthfulness of the Parents: The Principles derived from them, (being as is to be supposed) well-furnished with a Supply of natural warmth and moisture; and they again kept in repair by a continual accession of the same qualities afforded by the nourishment, and influenced by as constant an additional heat, generated at first formation of the Infant in the Mothers Heart, as afterwards in its own, upon the removal of the after-Birth, and breaking off of the Umbilical Vessels. The Body upon these considerations cannot chuse but be looked upon as a Mansion-House exceeding proper for the Soul to reside in; and it be but because the several actions necessary to the being and support of humane life, are so readily performed there, over what they would have been in an Organ that had been otherwise disposed; that is to say destitute of the qualifications before remembred by us; to instance in particulars. Alteration and concoction, (I mean not that of the Stomack only, but those more excellent and refined ones which succeed it) and so nutrition and augmentation are all effected and brought to pass by the interposition of heat and moisture; and then the nature of Temperament in general; as also of the several *Species* that are contained under it, depend very much upon the combination of these two qualities one with another. And as Health presupposeth a dueness of Temperament, so is it, its self, for the most part presupposed as a condition unto long life.

on

On the contrary, let the Parents happen to be crazie to ſome certain degree (to keep cloſe to our former Suppoſition) and then whatever proceeds from them will be apt to participate of the Infirmities of their Nature. According to the intent of that known Axiome. *Nothing can beſtow that upon another, which it firſt contained not within it ſelf.* And then by conſequence if the Blood of the Parents be contaminated and ſpoiled (as we ſee in divers Hereditary Diſeaſes) the Off-ſpring will fall out to be for temper much the ſame with them, and then 't will either become Abortive and Periſh before the Birth; or if living to ſee the Light, be evermore Feeble and Conſumptive, and ſo put into a conſtant diſpoſedneſs towards a final Diſſolution.

So that notwithſtanding to be healthfully deſcended be a matter of very high importance, and to be adjudged deſervedly as one of the firſt and main ſteps towards the attainment of Long Life, yet it is not all that is required thereto; but as we come into the World one way, and go out again divers, ſo it is poſſible for the beſt Conſtitution that is to miſs of its Ends upon ſeveral accidental accounts (as have been ſhewn before) and miſcarry as undoubtedly as if it were inclined thereto from a Principle within it ſelf. To which heads may be referred all thoſe outward acts of violence, which may

and too often do prove to be of Force enough for the deſtroying the beſt formed Infants in Nature, whilſt included in the Mothers Womb. As alſo the moſt vigorous and athletick Perſons living after they arrive to maturity of Years. To theſe Heads are reducible all thoſe Omiſſions, and overactings, thoſe many Miſtakes, Preſumptions and Miſapplications, thoſe Debaucheries and other Wayes of Intemperance, which many are too fatally guilty of in the unhappy Lives we live in, both in reſpect of themſelves and others. In a word, to this Catalogue doth belong all thoſe Legions of Mortal Enemies that do ſo conſtantly ſurround us in the whole Pilgrimage of our Lives. Which though numerous enough, I have nothing at all to do to meddle withal, more than barely to point at them; as being only concarned in the particular Diſcovery of one alone; not therefore ever a whit the leſs dangerous becauſe but little taken notice of. And that is, as has been mentioned oft and again, the ridiculous and non-ſenſical Cuſtom of Blood letting ſo much in uſe amongſt us, which I have conſtantly hithereto and do ſtill affirm to be prejudicial to every State and Condition of man, ſom few caſes only excepted, and ſhall thus endeavour more fully to evince.

Sup-

Suppoſe we a Perſon of the moſt exact and well framed Temperament of Body that was ever yet produced, and ſuch a one to have been attended on with an Affluence of all other deſirable Circumſtances whatever, there both muſt and will be a perpetual waſting and falling away of the ſeveral parts thereof. Such a mutability are we always ſubject unto (even the very beſt of us) from this common State of our Mortality: which loſs is evermore to be repaired and made up again in ſome meaſure, by as conſtant a ſupply of Aliment aſſumed unto that purpoſe; which Aliment could never be in any Capacity of producing ſuch an Effect, were it not for the Agreement the ſeveral Parts of it have with thoſe of the Body, to which they are to be united; and that not only in that common Principle of firſt matter; which is one and the ſame to all Bodies in general, but alſo in reſpect of thoſe two neceſſary Qualities ſo often times before mentioned of Heat and Moiſture. For it is upon the account of that additional and ſuper-added Moiſture that is conveyed unto it by the Nouriſhment, that the Radical is maintained and kept up, which is the ſame for kind with it. And the Primogenial Heat again is as neceſſarily upheld after the ſelf ſame way and manner,

according to what has been ſo often repeated heretofore.

For whether this Aliment ſo aſſumed be to be taken from Bruit Creatures, ſuch as is the Fleſh of Birds, or Beaſts, or Fiſhes; or whether it be to be derived from Vegetables, ſuch as have their Riſe immediately from the Bowels of the Earth. There are both this innate heat and radical moiſture ſtill to be found in the one as well as the other, and they are both evermore carefully preſerved by Nature, under all thoſe preivous Changes and Alterations the Aliment ſucceſſively paſſes through; till ſuch time as the laſt Act of Nutrition comes to be performed, and the Nouriſhment to be converted into, and made one with the Subſtance of the Body it ſelf.

And firſt of all as for that Concoction, that is laboured within the ſtomack, which was a little glanced at before; after the Aliment has been manducated and ground ſmall, laine for a convenient ſpace fermenting and digeſting within the Cavities of the ſame, the more feculent droſſie and impure parts thereof; are ſeperated and caſt into the draught, but the refined ſtill left behind to be promoted to a yet further degree of Exaltation, where ſtill the two Qualities, before named, are ſure evermore to be detained and kept back together with them.

And

And then again in like manner in the Liver or elſewhere, wherever the Second Concoction comes to be performed, and the work of Sanguification wrought, the ſame care is again taken for the Preſervation of them both, as there was before in the Stomack. For ſo we find them in an Eminent Manner to be contained there, and that from the Obſervation of our very ſences themſelves; that the Blood is always warm ſo long as Life remains within the Body; the Senſe of Feeling is ſufficient to inform us, and that it is moiſt as well as hot, is over and above made clear to us by the diſcerning of the Sight.

And ſo in the third and laſt place, when that great and Subſtantial Exchange comes to be made, there is not the leſt doubt but that the ſame Qualities are withheld ſtill. It being very improbable that Nature ſhould preſerve them thus charily all this while, to part with them at a Seaſon when they were likely to be of the greateſt uſefulneſs of all to her: and if we enquire into the Nature of this Cambium the immediate matter (ſay ſome) out of which the Reſtauration of the Body is to be made, we ſhall always obſerve it held forth and expreſſed by ſuch Names and Appellations as do plainly enough intimate the ſame things unto us.

And thus by this means are we arrived to

an eaſy way of expounding what is meant by that ſo perpetual waſting of the radical moiſture in the Body of Man, (ſo much talked of) and the repairing it again by an Additional Supply that was with the ſame Conſtancie afforded it; as likewiſe to a clear Underſtanding of the great Prejudice that is done to humane Bodies by deprieving them of the Matter out of which this Supplement is only to be made. 'Tis the Humidity of the Aliment received, that makes amends for the Loſs ſuſtained upon the other Account; and put but a ſtop to that, and the firſt Stock waſts amain; as we ſee evidently in a little bodily Sickneſs, (where for want of this wonted Supply of Nouriſhment, Nature not being then at leaſure to attend unto it, as being called upon to a far more neceſſary work of fighting with the Diſtemper) how ſtrangely will the Members become emaciated all on the ſuddain And ſo in many other Caſes, where though the the things are not, yet the Proportion held in them may be ſaid to be one; and the ſame.

That Perſon who has a ſtanding Revenue and other Additional Helps, amounting to almoſt an equal value with that, for the defraying of his neceſſary Charge, may yet haply be put upon ſuch Expences as ſhall ex-

exceed them both together, and ſo be left unavoidably liable to a declining in his Eſtate. But now if this Superadded Income happen totally to be Suſpended, then that waſting which was but ſlow, and as it were inſenſible, though ſure enough before, will now become quick and manifeſt; becauſe the one main means that gave check to its Progreſs is ſuppoſed to be taken away.

Which very ſame thing is yet further illuſtrated by that comon Inſtance given of the burning Lamp, which from the time of its firſt ſeting up, to that of its final exſtinguiſhment, may well be ſaid to have a continual Tendency and Motion to its laſt End. But then if other ſupplimental Oyl of a much more groſs and impure Subſtance, ſuch as is indeed through the greatneſs of its Alay, unable to gender any Flame of its ſelf at all, ſhall happen conſtantly to be poured in, as the other is ſuppoſed to be drawn off, though it can never maintain a burning to perpetuity, yet will it however by Contributing ſomething of an oily Subſtance to be joyned to that which was upon the Waſt before, be a means to prolong the time of the Lamps duration; and cauſe it to hold out much longer than otherwiſe it would have done. And then if it ſhould ſo come to paſs, that there ſhould be an utter Suſpenſion, and withdrawing of

this wonted Contribution, though but for a while, the pure Oyl will moſt undoubtedly blaze out the faſter for lack thereof, and there ought to be a proportianoble abatement made upon the Account of the whole duration, for the Interruption that has been given by that Occaſional Intermiſſion let it happen to have fallen out when ere it will.

There is a certain Stock of Radical Moiſture to be obſerved within the Body of every man, which defuſes it ſelf thoroughout each minute particle thereof, and without which 'tis impoſſible for any due Temperament long to be preſerved; or for the Soul and Body to be held in a State of Conjunction one with another: This Moiſture is ſuppoſed to be perpetually ſubject to decay, and that upon a double account; *Firſt* as being preyed upon by the Heat it is contempered withal; and *Secondly*, becauſe the Subſtantial Parts in which it is founded as an Accident in its Subject, are liable to be conſumed alſo; but the Blood of Man is either the Immediate Matter, or at leaſt wiſe the Matter but once removed, out of which the Parts ſo decaying, are all to be framed a new, and the Heat and Moiſture which we have proved to be the inſeperable Concomitants of the Blood, are the ſame for kind, though not for Purity, with the Innate and Radical, that are Seated in the ſeveral

Parts

Parts of the Body. And 'tis only from the Addition of them, as we have been ſtill ſuppoſing, and in a manner enforced ſo very long to inſiſt upon the Proof of, becauſe a Point ſo exceeding neceſſary to be thorowly underſtood that the Primogenial are upheld. And therefore when ever it ſo falls out, that any ſtop ſhall be put to the Continuation of the Act of Nutrition (as tis very improbable but that there ſhould be ſome, when ere the Blood out of which this Aid is only to be afforded, comes, though but in Part, to be Subtracted and taken away) thoſe Parts of the Body, which both might and ought to have been recruted thereby, will moſt certainly be deprived for ſome time, at leaſt wiſe, of ſuch a Proportion of Heat and Moiſture as had been realy communicated unto them, had this hinderance never been; becauſe, as goes the Subſtance, ſo in like manner goes the Accident; they live and die, riſe and fall together: and when ever the one is withheld the other of Courſe will unavoidably be kept back alſo; and though it ſhould happly be but for a time, that very Conceſſion alone is ſufficient for our purpoſe; becauſe, according to the Inſtances alledged, the two Original Qualities before mentioned, muſt, for lack of ſuch wonted Acceſſions, be left under a neceſſity of ſo much the greater waſting and decay;

and

and as a conſequent of that their final Extirpation, be ſo much the nearer its Accompliſhment.

Forces, when united into one, as they are allowed to be the ſtronger, ſo are they upon that Account the better inabled to withſtand any foreign Violence that ſhall at any time be attempted againſt them; and not only ſo, but to hold out ſo much the longer againſt their own natural Principles, inclining them to a Diſſolution. And therefore if thoſe Qualities, which from time to time have been conſtantly relieved (if not intended) by an Additional Supplie of others of like Virtues with themſelves, come once to fail of the Supporters they have hitherto been holpen withal; What other can be expected, but that immediately from that Inſtant, they ſhould not only begin to flagg and bate ſomething of their Priſtine Vigour, but alſo be much more haſty and precipitate in the manner of their ſo doing; becauſe now reduced to a neceſſity of ſpending altogether upon their own private Stock, which they were not before put upon; and though poſſibly ſo ſoone as ever Nature is able to reinforce her ſelf, the very ſame, or near as good Supplies as any afforded in times paſt, are ſure again to be ſent in; and all things, ſo far forth as is poſſible, to be reſtored to their wonted

ted Condition. 'Tis queſtionable however whether or no that Relief may not come too late to make amends for the loſs ſuſtained in that interval; nay 'tis utterly impoſſible but that it ſhould; becauſe theſe ſuperadded Qualities, if conſidered in their own Nature, are ſuited to no other end, than barely to keep the Primogenial from ſinking, ſo faſt as without them they would have done; not ſimply from fading at all: For were it ſo, men would never die, but live till they were Immortal. And therefore much leſs can they be ordained to have the leaſt reſpect backwards for the reparation of any Antecedent Dammage that may be ſuppoſed to have happened before their coming.

And if any ſhall be ſo perverſe, as obſtinately to maintain, that they can diſcern little reaſon, wherefore to conclude a Suſpenſion of the act of Nutrition, becauſe ſome few ounces of Blood have been drained from the whole Maſs; the abatement of ſo ſmall a Quantity being very inconſiderable, if compared with the total ſum, perchance not amounting, upon a due Eſtimate, in the departure of *nine* or *ten* Ounces thereof, to the proportion of above one, to one and thirty.

And therefore that though it ſhould ſo fall out, that Phlebotomy ſhould at Diſtant Seaſons be

be oft and again celebrated, it could never follow from thence, but that enongh and to ſpare might ſtill be left behind for the carrying on the ſo neceſſary work of Nouriſhing the Body, and that withont the leaſt hinderance and Interruption thereof at all.

And ſhould they proceed further to urge, as an enforcement of the Belief of this their Opinion, the different Quantities of Blood, and extream latitude, as to that one particular, that is to be diſcerned amongſt ſeveral Perſons, as extending, according to the Calculations of ſome, who pretend to be curious about that enquiry, to upwards of a *hundred* and *forty* Ounces; And ſo upon that account hold it but reaſonable to inferr, that what ever Quantity ſhall be ſuppoſed to ſurmount the juſt ſtandard of ſuch a Proportion, as ought to ſuffice for the competent Support of Mens Bodies, and a convenient tranſmitting the humours thereof from one Part to another, deſerves to be looked upon under no other Notion, than as a timely Proviſion, laid up in Store by Nature, againſt all ſuch accidental loſſes of the ſame, as, by ſome Caſualities or other, might happen for the future to fall out.

I Anſwer, that neither of theſe Conſiderations, how plauſible ſoever they may appear to be, can ever be of force to weaken the Validity

lidity of any Assertion formerly laid down by us; if we do but call to mind, that humane Bodies, as they are observed to vary from one another exceedingly, in respect of the unequal Quantities of Blood that are wont to be contained in each of them; So neither will they be found to be at a much greater Agreement amongst themselves, in point of Bulk and Stature. And consequently, all such of them as are of any thing a greater magnitude than those others they are compared with, as they will require such an amplitude of Vessels as may best comport with such their Dimensions; so likewise for the same reason will they stand in need of such convenient measures of Blood, as may in some sort contribute to the satisfying these their different Capacities, and be every way correspondent to the more than ordinary Largeness of them.

And then, look what excess of greatness shall be alotted to any one mans Body above another; the same in a like Proportion ought to be allowed to each Particular Member, and Integral Part, into which the whole can Limb be supposed to be divided, if compared with other Parts and Members which are Constructive of some lesser Body, unto which their own Total had been referred. According to which way of procedure, by a deduction as evident as Demonstration it self.

That

That Blood that ſhall be adjudged convenient for the repair and maintainance of thoſe larger parts, ought to be exhibited in ſomewhat a more plentiful and free manner than to thoſe others that are leſs, and then what becomes of all thoſe Redundances and Superfluities that according to this Opinion are ſo much relied on?

Beſides, humane Bodies are known to differ as well in point of Temperament, as they do in bigth and tallneſs: upon which account there are incommunicable Degrees of Heat and Cold, aſcribed by the Learned to either Sex. Men, they affirm to be of a Conſtitution much more hot, Vigorous and Active than Females uſually are, whence it comes to paſs, that they ſtand not in want of thoſe periodical Evacuations that the others cannot be ſo well without, the Superfluous exceſſes of their Blood being otherwiſe corrected, and that as either preyed upon and conſumed by their own natural Heat, or driven forth of the Body again in Sweat and Vapour by the protruſion of the ſame cauſe: and if ſo be one Sex may be ſet at ſo wide a diſtance from the other, in reſpect of theſe two Oppoſite Qualities, as we ſee they are, and as is commonly believed by all. What hinders but that the ſeveral individuals, comprehended under either kind, may in a due meaſure and in ſome

leſs

leſs Proportion be removed from one another likewiſe, and then the as different Circumſtances that unadvoidably fall in with, and are appendant to the ſuppoſal of theſe various Qualities, that is to ſay, as conſidered in a more remiſs or intenſe Degree, are neither hard to conceive, nor yet difficult to be accounted for. Becauſe there is nothing either more or leſs to be found in them, than what is occaſioned by Principles apt enough to produce ſuch Effects by way of Natural Cauſality. And ſo according to the Rules of common Diſcourſe, and ordinary Reaſoning, what can be more neceſſarily concluded, than that all ſuch as are of a Blith and Spritely humour, ſhould require of Courſe a great deal more of Blood, and Spirits for the ſupporting it, than others which are dull, and lazy, and Phlegmatick, for the maintainance of theirs; in regard they are put to a much greater Expence thereof every moment of their Lives than the others are. It faring with the one as with the Earth in *Summer*. At what time let the Clouds gather together never ſo faſt, and the Water deſcend upon it, in almoſt never ſo great abundance, 'tis forthwith returned back again in Vapour and Exhalation; and unleſs it may for a Conſtancy have its wants ſupplied, with freſh and repeated Showers, will unadvoidably in

a very little while become ſcorched and burnt up.

But with the others as with the ſame Element in the depth and dead of *Winter*, when there neither is, nor can be the ſame avoidance of its moiſture, becauſe, that heat, which ſhould alone work its removal, is ſo exceedingly abated, over what it was wont to be at the other Seaſon of the Year, all things are not the ſame to all men; and if that Aſſertion ſhall ſeem overſtrange to any, it will be leſs ſo, if we do but conſider, that all men are not the ſame neither to themſelves, but vary and change Conditions almoſt as often as the *Moon* does Shapes, to day appearing in one Humour, and to morrow in another; and as Rivers are called by the ſame Names, by way of *Analogy* only, when the Waters out of which they are conſtituted are hourly freſh and new, ſo may the ſame thing in ſome qualified Senſe be verified of mens Bodies too.

So that to reſume our former Debate, there is no great Queſtion to be made, but that as every Body is fitted with particular Inſtruments and Organs, ſuch as may be convenient for its uſe, and compoſed of ſuch Members as may bare a Proportion to the whole; ſo likewiſe, with ſuch Supplies of Blood and Nouriſhment, as are every way agreeable to its

its Temper. And the *Sanguine* and the *Cholerick*, the *Melancholick* and the *Flegmatick*, have each of them ſuch allowances as ſuit beſt with their ſeveral Conſtitutions; and then if the Quantities of Blood that are obſerved to be in each of them be not alike, ſo (if the matter were well enquired into) perchance neither is there Temperament; and to the Diſſimilitude of the one, may very well be aſcribed the Inequality of the other. And then upon either or both theſe Accounts, taken jointly or ſeverally (as the matter may ſeem to require) there may be grounds ſufficient ſhown for the producing a Reaſon, for whatever common Experience informs us of as touching the preſent enquiry; without flying to meer Poſſibilities, Contingencies, things which indeed may, but perhaps never will fall out, of which more anon: But ſuppoſe they ſhould both fail and be rejected as unſatisfactory, and that nothing of a direct proof could be made out from either of them, that is to ſay, that neither the Inequalities of mens Bodies, nor yet the Diſagreeableneſs of their Tempers ought to be allowed of as any Cauſe at all, for the furniſhing them with ſuch various Supplies of Blood as we uſually find they have; which yet to me appeares plain and reaſonable enough; and ſo 'tis like it may do to many others beſides,

I do not ſee however, upon what Imaginary grounds, or colourable pretence, this laying up Proviſions againſt future Caſualities, can poſſible be made uſe of as an Argument of any Force at all to evince it ; that being neither conſiſtent with the uſual Methods of Nature in other like Caſes, not yet with thoſe commonly received Notions that are vulgarly delivered concerning her ; ſuch as are acting Neceſſarily and Perfectly ; her intending but one thing at a time, and nothing at all in vain.

Whereas according to this Hypotheſis, ſhe would be taken up about the Continuance of Matters purely contingent, as depening upon the Will of a meer voluntary Agent; and that ofttimes, ſuch a one as is determined in his Reſolutions, not by the Dictates of right Reaſon as he ought, but it may be by chance or Fancy, or ſomething worſe than either.

And can any be ſo vain as to think, that ſo perfect an Agent ſhould ever buſy her ſelf in doing things at all adventures ; as when She makes ſuch ſolemn Preparations for humane Bodies in general in all Ages paſt, that were to be made uſe of but in ours, or in times not long preceeding them, or but in ſome parts of the World only ; and thoſe ſo very inconſiderable in Compariſon

pariſon of the whole; for as for ſuch wounds and effuſion of Blood, as are occaſioned by popular Tumults and publick Calamities of War; thoſe though too too frequent, are yet nothing at all, if compared with thoſe premeditated ones, which happen in time of Peace, and beſides they likewiſe depend upon Principles altogether as uncertain.

Much leſs can ſhe be ſuppoſed to act, in a Contradiction to her own purpoſes, at the ſame time, as ſhe muſt unavoidably do, in caſe this Method were to be admitted; her common intendment being believed, and that with reaſon enough, to be the Welfare and Preſervation of humane Bodies in the groſs, and yet this would be the ready way to ruin and deſtroy them; for nothing elſe can be the true meaning of this hoarding up of ſuch Superfluities of Blood, as the Abetters of this Opinion muſt neceſſarily ſuppoſe; which let be in what Quantity it will, if more than is at preſent ſufficient, cannot well be imagined but by its rankneſs and turgeſcenty, to breed ſomething of anoyance to thoſe Bodies, it ſhall be beſtowed upon; there being commonly as many Miſchiefs fall out, ariſing from the Exceſſes, as the Deficiencies of things, in almoſt all Caſes that can be inſtanced in; but however moſt undoubtedly in this, as might be made appear

dently enough, by multitudes of Examples that might be collected to that purpose; and which every ones Capacity, though never so mean, may be able sufficiently to furnish him withal.

Now the direct Course, Nature Steers in the Provisions she is wont to make about Matters of this kind, is such as may comport with her Designations as she is a universal Agent, and whatever reaches not up to that one Standard of being universal, falls as much Short of being Natural: and that may serve as a Direction to Judge by, what ought to be accounted of, as Natural, and what not. The whole World as considered in its universal Extent, is the adequate Object of Natures Care, and the Preservation, and Ornament thereof, is chiefly and in the first place intended by her, as is attested among other Experiments, more especially by that common one, so much taken notice of by Philosophers; to wit, her great Solicitousness about the recording a Vanity, which, rather than it shall be permitted, what ever particular beings happen to be near hand, where such outrage is attempted; they are all to be summon'd in to give their attendance, upon that one common Cause; and if need require, put upon it, to suffer in its Rescue.

But the World, as taken in that Sense, is too

too complicated a thing, not to call for a more particular Regard, made up of the ſeveral ſorts of Creatures contained in it; as they again of Individuals comprehended under them: and 'tis the good of thoſe divers Species, Nature, in the Second place, is wont to be concerned for: and below that Degree of Univerſality, never vouchſafes to Condiſcend: 'tis true indeed, Univerſals are all founded in Particulars, and can have no Subſiſtance, not ſo much as that which is imaginary, but by their means; and that common Influence beſtowed upon the World in general, could never reach the affect it was deſigned for, did it not firſt light in a very particular manner upon them; but that being not intended at all for their Sakes, under the Strict Formality of their being Singular; but upon the Account of that one common Agreement, in which they all meet and concenter; what is one way applied, ought alwayes to be looked upon as otherwiſe intended; to wit, for the Benefit and Advantage of the whole Community, without any reſpect at all had, to this or that individual Perſon or thing; and that it is, ſo which way ſoever we caſt our Eyes upon the works of the whole Creation; there may be, and are, from each Degree amongſt them, Pregnant Inſtances afforded us; let us take a view of inani-

mate Bodies, Vegetables, and bruit Creatures, as they ſtand divided into their ſeveral Ranks and Orders, and they will be found to have one common Nature, in which they all concur, and upon the account of which, the Individuals belonging to each of them, are at an exact Harmony and Agreement one with another. From thence it is, that they all of them partake of the ſame outward Form and Portraicture, ſo that it is an eaſy matter at the very firſt appearance to diſtinguiſh one kind from another, and to refer each of them in particular to their own proper Claſs: from thence it is, that their whole Structure, Make and Compoſition, when ever ſearched into, admitts of ſo true a Proportion, and that the Actions and Operations proceeding from their Inward Principles, come ſo Univerſally to agree; how elſe could it ever be poſſible for the Trees of the ſame kind to bud, bloſſome and bring forth their Fruits together, and all after the ſame likeneſs, and ſimilitude, were it not for this univerſal Concourſe of Nature; and how elſe could they be Imagined to keep Time, and Pace, and Proportion ſo exactly in every thing they do, but that there is a ſecret and common Influence imparted unto each of them; and the like may be ſaid of each and every particular thing, that can be pitched upon in the whole

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Creation; 'tis but reducing it to its own Species, and then it will be found to agree with all other particulars of that kind, beſides it ſelf in its Shape, Tendency and Operations. And 'tis the Preſervation of that Conſent; and the maintainance of that common Agreement, that Nature alwayes aimes at in what ſhe propounds to her ſelf; and ſo that may but be kept up, no matter what becomes of the ſeveral Individuals contributing thereunto, they may all periſh and moulder away ſucceſſively, as we ſee they do; and yet the other, for all that be upheld to perpetuity.

And look what may be affirmed of other ſorts of Creatures up and down in the World, the ſame doubtleſs holds proportionably true in Mankind as well as the reſt. And ſo all Perſons that partake of the ſame common Principles, will not fail to ſhare in the production of the ſame common Effects; the Faculties of their Souls, and the Affections of their Bodies will be univerſally the ſame, and the ſeveral Parts and Members which concur to the making up of the Outward Man, will be ſure to have all the ſame Habitudes and mutual Reſpects one towards another: and wherever this Order ceaſes to be found, ſuch Productions are to be accounted of, no longer Natural, but Monſtrous. The *Geometrician*, having once gained the Dimenſions

of *Herculus* his Foot, was at no loſs at all to find out the Complement of his whole Body; becauſe of the Natural ſymmetry of Parts that was to be ſuppoſed in them, even from the greateſt to the leaſt: ſo that if he know but how to calculate truely, there was no poſſible danger of being miſtaken in raiſing any falſe Concluſions.

But if an exact Harmony be to be obſerved in matters of leſs Moment, then why not in ſo material a thing, as that a due Proportion of Blood ſhould be allowed to every individual Perſon; and if nothing can be natural but what implies a Univerſality, to wit, one common Conſent and Agreement amongſt the Individuals belonging to the ſame kind; and if there be no greater Reaſon for an Exceſs of Blood to be provided for all humane Bodies in General, than a Deficiency, as in Truth there is none, then the meaneſt Skill in *Logick* that is, will teach us to infer a Mediocrity; and what may moſt conveniently ſuite with each Mans particular Exigency, State and Diſpoſition: for an Agreement they muſt of neceſſity concur in; and it being once granted, that there was no more than what was ſufficient, before ſuch Act of *Phlebotomy*, it follows by a direct and clear Conſequence, that there muſt be leſs, ſo ſoon as ever that comes to be performed; and ſo muſt

muſt needs continue to be, till ſuch time that loſs ſhall ſome way or other be recruited; which before it can be done, how many and great Inconveniences, may be apt upon ſeveral Occaſions to happen out, I leave to each Mans particular Judgement to determine; and that ſerves fully enough to evince what has been ſo long contended for; to wit, that the taking away any determinate Quantity of Blood whatever, muſt unavoidably infer ſome Prejudice to be done to the Party ſo deprived of it; ſome very few Caſes excepted; becauſe, he has it not now in the exact Quantity allotted him by Nature, which is ſeldom, or never out in the meaſures ſhe takes, and as ſhe rarely failes in the ſhaping a Hand, or a Foot, ſo as to make it either too big, or too little, for the Body to which it belongs; ſo no doubt is ſhe as little to ſeek in the apportioning other matters of an equal Concernment with them, when ever left to be diſpoſed of by her. 'Twere endleſs to waſt time in the numeration of Particulars, there being very few Diſeaſes, which may not be ſaid to afford us Inſtances of this kind, and which may not be proved to take their Riſe, or Augmentation, or both, from the Indiſcreet Application of this Univerſal Remedy, as 'tis now vulgarly believed, but there is no proſecuting ſeveral Arguments at one and the

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ſame time : and 'tis the Act of Nutrition alone that I have pitched upon as my choice, and that I am engaged to keep to, which will moſt undoubtedly come to be ſuſpended or abated, or ſome way or other hindered thereby, and then what the Conſequence is, of neceſſity falling out thereupon, hath been already ſhewn.

For, what elſe is Nature, but the directive Power of Almighty God in his Government of the World, which therefore may be ſaid to act regularly, becauſe rationally ; but in all rational purpoſes, matters of Conveniency are to yield and give way to thoſe of neceſſity, the chiefeſt Good, in caſe of Competion, and where both cannot be attained at the ſame time, is evermore to be preferred; and the greateſt evil as conſtantly to be avoided, there muſt one be ſubmitted to; but if we ſhall diligently compare theſe two Offices of Nouriſhing the Body, and Circulation of the Blood one with another, we ſhall find upon due Examination had, the latter to be much the more neceſſary of the two, and conſequently the other to be ſuſpended for ſome time, when ever they happen to be inconſiſtent together, which will be in a manner as often as *Phlebotomy* ſhall be made uſe of : becauſe a convenient Quantity, and no more, as has been ſufficiently proved, being

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to be allowed to every man in that Eſtate Nature has aſſigned him, when ever that Proportion comes to be abated of, ſhe is engaged to uſe her utmoſt endeavours, for the reproducing it with what poſſible Speed ſhe can, and then for her to augment and waſt it at the ſame time, to part with as great a Quantity thereof, about the repaires of the Body, as ſhe was wont formerly, and yet forthwith to make an amends for this other accidental Loſs, that is ſuppoſed to happen over and above, eſpecially when the other might very well be looked upon as a task ſufficient (in Perſons already paſt their beſt, and now in a waining Condition, to be ſure it is) is a matter ſomewhat difficult to comprehend.

At other times, and upon other Occaſions not altogether unlike to this, when the conteſt has been between this very Act of Nutrition, and a Good, confeſſedly greater than it ſelf, that it has been reſpited for a while, appears evidently enough in the Inſtance of Sickneſs before obſerved; where the Life of Man is ſuppoſed to be brought in Jeopardy, but that the Life of man is no leſs concerned, upon a Stoppage put to the Circulation of the Blood, is every whit as clear, for what matter of greater Importance to the very Being and Suſtentation of Humane Life, can there

there possibly be assigned, than is the free Motion and Transportation of the Blood and Spirits from one part of the Body to the other : 'tis equivalent to the very Action of breathing it self, which all agree upon to be a thing of exceeding great moment; nay in some Sense to be esteemed of before it: it being possible for Life to be supported without the one, as we see it is in all Children before their Births, and in some Divers, beyond the *Seas*, if the Testimony of Travellers concerning that point, be any thing to be heeded, but never in any wise without the other; insomuch that at what time soever the Heart and Arteries forbear to beat, the Body is supposed, from that very moment, to forbear any longer to live, but even to expire and die away together with their Motion.

A further Illustration of the truth of the same matter, discovers it self to our almost every Dayes Experience, were we but at leisure to give heed thereto as we ought; in each common Diarrhea, or Looseness of the Body, in which the Strength failes, and the Flesh abates immediately, upon the breaking out of that Distemper, which surely can be for no other reason but this, the Nourishment now becoming slippery, and not making a stay long enough either in the Stomack or Bowels, so as to be able to impart of its alible

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Juice to the whole mass of Blood as formerly, the Blood thereupon forbears sending any further Supplies to the several Parts of the Body, till such time as the wonted order comes again to be observed; not that the Blood can ever be supposed to be endued with a Faculty of Discerning between good and evil, or made to be any way capable of the foresight of an Inconvenience to ensue upon the parting with its own Stock, without good Security taken for having more laid in the room of it; But what though it should not? Nature takes care of all beings alike, and bestowes Instincts and Directions where higher Faculties are wanting, for the attaining several good and useful purposes; and then 'tis all one upon the matter, as if it self were; upon whose account it is, that the very *Lillies* of the Field, though they neither Weave nor Spin, come to be decked as Gorgeously, and arrayed in as goodly a Sort as any of those Creatures that have Wit and Contrivance allowed them for the procuring of their own Apparrel; In allusion to which Oeconomy and over-ruling Power of Providence, are we accustomed to say, in common Discourse, upon our taking Cold at any time, after the leaving off a Garment, or being more thinly clad than usual, that the parts so deprieved of their wonted Covering still looked

looked for, and expected a Continuance of what they had had before; whereas in ſtrict propriety of Speech, to expect and look for, are Acts too high and noble to be performed, by ſuch inferiour Inſtruments, as are the Limbs and Out-parts of the Body. But inaſmuch as Nature is ſuppoſed to bear ſo great a Hand and Sway over them, ſo as to furniſh them with Diſpoſitions, Habitudes, and Inclinations, in a word to have the Guidance of them in many reſpects, much after the ſame manner that an Arrow is directed to the Mark, or a *Ship* Steered towards the Harbour: ſuch Expreſſions are aptly enough ſuited to the Nature of the things they are deſigned for, and apprehended by ſuch as either uſe or have them without any Difficulty at all.

So that the Circulation of the Blood being known to be much more uſeful than the Act of Nouriſhing the Body, and that the ſame Act of Nouriſhing the Body, has been at ſometimes, and is uſually forborn to be exerciſed, whether it be in caſe of Nature her being better imployed elſewhere, or whether it be for lack of a Supply of ſuch Contribution as the Body was wont formerly to be furniſhed withal; what hinders but that it ſhould as well give place here (that is to ſay, wherever *Phlebotomy* ſhall be made uſe of, ſeeing

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'tis all one in ſome Senſe to be diſfurniſhed of what we actually had, and not to be ſupplied with what we ſhould have had, and be ſuſpended for ſome little time, ſo long at leaſtwiſe till the preſent harms may admit of a Reparation, which be it more, or be it leſs, if any at all, will be found ſufficient for our purpoſe; becauſe, as has been already ſhewn, the Act of Nutrition, if ſuſpended at any time, muſt unavoidably infer an Abatement to be made upon the whole Duration of Mans Life; I ſay, the Duration of Mans Life, in regard the two primitive Qualities, ſo often before mentioned, and which are held to be the Maintainers of it, are ſo inevitably cut ſhort thereby; and then the whole duration, not only becauſe 'tis impoſſible to Subſtract any one ſingle Unite from the vaſteſt Number that can be named, without an impairing to the total Sum, or take away the ſmalleſt Particle imaginably from any Species of continued Quantity, without making it leſs than it was before; but as being willing to comprehend thereby any poſſible Alterations, greater or leſs, whether preſent or future, that may poſſibly be occaſioned thereby; nay, though they ſhould be of ſo ſlow and gradual a Production, as could not well be taken notice of all on the ſudden, by one tranſient and ſingle view.

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There being very many things in Nature, which, though falling directly under the cognizance of humane ſenſe, when conſidered of altogether, may yet be far enough from being accounted of as ſuch, if divided into Particles, and ſmall Tractions, and a reſpect be to be had to the preciſe manner of their being brought forth. The Graſs of the Field increaſeth daily at almoſt every ſeaſon of the Year, and the Bodys of Vegitables and Living creatures, till ſuch time they arrive at their perfect growth, are inceſſantly paſſing from a leſs Eſtate unto a greater, and yet who the moſt ſharp ſighted amongſt you, can pretend to an Infallibility of Judging the Senſible Alterations wrought either in the one or the other; and the very ſame Proportion holds in the Determination of moſt things that is obſervable in their Increaſe; 'tis to be confeſſed indeed, that after ſome Pauſe made, and Competenty of time taken, to make a compariſon between the things themſelves, 'tis very poſſible to make a due Eſtimate of what may have happened, but that is not ſo much the Queſtion in debate; 'tis the ſhortneſs of time, and the ſmalneſs of the Change wrought init, which alone creates the Difficulty; and ſo again, there are many things which as to common Appearance have not their Affects at preſent, and which ſeemingly

ingly act at a very great Diſtance of time in the producing them, which yet are ſo far from diſerving to be ſlighted, upon the ſcore of the inſenſibleneſs of their approach; that on the contrary, they may ſeem rather to exact ſo much the greater Portion of our care to be taken, in the better providing and cautioning our ſelves againſt them: the Venome of ſome Beaſts, how ſlowly, and as it were with deliberation does it ſteal, and inſinuate it ſelf into the Bodies of ſuch Creatures, as have at any time been wounded by them; till at laſt, it comes to take a full Poſſeſſion of the whole Maſs of Blood, and Vital Spirits, and brake forth to open Acts of Violence: and yet all the while it hath layn thus dormant, may truely be ſaid to have as great an Aptitude to deſtroy, as any the moſt deadly Draught of *Arſenick*, or *Ratsbane*: and the neglect of ſome inconſiderable Breach, when it ſhould have been Repaired; how does it in time, occaſion Ruine and Deſtruction to the whole Building.

Herein lies the great Fallacy, which ſimple People are wont to put upon themſelves; they live a Life of Senſe, rather than Reaſon, or indeed, Fancy rather than Senſe; and becauſe they don't take notice of any preſent Alterations, that may have happened; are the more inclinable to think, that therefore

there have been none at all; and becauſe they believe, there have been none for the preſent; are ready to conclude, that therefore there wil be none for time to come; and all this proceeds from no other grounds, than want of Judgement, and Foreſight; and ſo being unable, to determine their own Thoughts, by any Solidity of Argument, they are able to make out themſelves; are the ſooner prevailed upon, by Cuſtom and Example, to do as others would have them; and willingly ſuffer themſelves, to be gulled and cheated out of their Lives and Healths, only to gratify the humour of the next impertinent Talker, that either comes in their way, or they ſend for to adviſe withal; who, ſo he can but enjoy the delicious Sweets, of having things done after his own way; cares not (it may be) what Miſchiefs betides thoſe Perſons, upon whoſe Bodies the Experiment comes to be made trial of; which is a matter, I could wiſh every one that ſhall have Occaſion at any time to be concerned therein, would a little ſeriouſly conſider of.

I did ſay before, that in caſe of the apprehenſion of ſome great danger, nigh or afar off; which yet could be no other, than that of Death it ſelf, or ſome painful, or grievous Diſeaſe, that might be the *Harbinger* thereto;

thereto ; this was a way, that both might, and ought to be ſubmitted unto ; as upon the Compariſon between two evils, the leſs is alwayes to be choſen, becauſe in that comparative Senſe, it ought to be conceived of, under the Notion of a good : and ſo may this alſo, though in it ſelf, it be no other than a direct means, to abreviate the Number of mens Dayes, and abridge the Period of their Lives, by Natures Bounty appointed them ; as has been manifeſted at large.

And though divers are of Opinion, that many after Bleeding, have been much more lively, and vigorous ; as alſo far more fat and corpulent, than ever they were before ; which may ſeem, to be an Argument of force, to render Invalid, what has hitherto been contended for : let it be but taken into conſideration, that all Opinions, that have the good hap to be credited, have not alwayes Truth on their ſide ; and if it were ſo, there would not be ſo many vulgar Miſtakes, as uſually we find there are ; and though it ſhould fall out, for ſome interval of time, to be as is pretended ; yet that would evince but little, it being obſervable, for ſome lucid Interval to happen, even in the moſt cloudy Dayes, and ſome little Lightning (as they call it) that may be taken notice of, before

the approach of Death it ſelf; which as it can be no ſure mark, to judge the State of the Sick Party by; ſo neither is it ſo much to be attended to, how Patients find themſelves for a little Space after they have been let Blood; as what the conſtant Tenour and Condition of their Health, in its full latitude, from that time forward, is commonly taken to be.

The *Ram* may give ground, but it is with no other purpoſe, than to make head again with ſo much the greater Fury. And Bodily paines, as we find by daily Experience, upon the taking of ſome Medicines, have appeared to be prety well appeaſed; which yet afterwards, have broken out again, more violently than ever. The Sprigs that are pared from off the Body of the Tree, at ſome Seaſons of the Year, if but pricked into the Earth, will make a ſhew to bud and bloſſome, as fairly to the Eye, if not fairer, than thoſe Boughs that have been let alone; but every one is able to give a gueſs, at the different event, the one is like to have from the other; who has but Reaſon to conſider, from whence it is, that the cauſe of this their Flouriſhing proceedeth: what is deferred, is not for that reaſon, to be looked upon, as quite taken away; and an account may be ballanc'd by ſums brought in as well at the Rere, as

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the Beginning: and further, as touching that ſubſequent Fatneſs, which appears to ſome, to have been occaſioned upon the ſcore of *Phlebotomy*: 'tis to be noted, that there is a puffing, and ſwelling up of the Body, exceeding much different from a ſolid, and ſubſtantial Nutriment; and though it ſhould realy prove to be ſuch as is ſuppoſed, there is no Queſtion at all to be made, but that upon a ſtrict Examination of the Matter, a Cauſe might very well have been diſcovered, from the Rules and Principles of Phyſick, wherefore to have warranted, a juſt taking away of Blood in ſuch a Caſe as that was; which has conſtantly been alledged of by us. And therefore nothing can ever be inferred, from what has hitherto been allayed, as ſpoken in Oppoſition againſt any ſuch manner of Proceedings, but what tends much rather to the juſt Vindication of them: it being the raſh, heady, and precipitate manner of doing the thing, that we have been endeavouring all this while to expoſe, not Blood letting in General, but letting Blood without a Cauſe, and without taking time to conſider, whether it were fitting to be done or not.

'Tis neither Abſurdity, nor Contradiction, to condemn the uſe of the ſame Remedies in ſome, and approve of them in others, becauſe

the moſt general Rules that are, are by no means to paſs unlimited ; and Circumſtances, when different, ſtand evermore in need of as different a manner of Application. So that what is hurtful in one caſe, may be profitable in another ; as we find Opium and ſtrong Waters, to be of a ſingular uſe, when applied ſeaſonably, and with care ; and yet the one is known, to be no other than a rank Poyſon, if conſidered in its own Nature ; and the other the worſt of Enemies, to the digeſting Faculty of the Stomack: and ſo though the lopping off of a Limb, from the Body of a man, be a moſt pernicious thing, and tends apparently to the bane and ruine of that Party, upon whom ſuch Cruelty ſhall be exerciſed ; no one ever doubted it. Yet, when a Part ſhall become mortifyed, and ſeizſed on by a *Gangrene*, then 'tis ſo far from being accounted ſo; that the diſmembring the man, is one of the higheſt Acts of Charity, that can poſſibly be ſhewn him ; becauſe the greatneſs of the Danger, legitimates the deſperateneſs of the Cure : and indeed, unleſs it be in caſe of Apparent danger, a hazardous Medicine, ought never to be put in practice, leſt the Miſchiefs that acrue thereby, ſhould prove greater than the Advantage. There is a Rule of Proportion evermore to be obſerved in ſuch things

things: and 'tis not the leaſt part of the *Phyſitians* Office, to ſhew himſelf well skil'd therein: and I ſee no reaſon, but that a *Chyrurgeon*, may as well cut a man for the Stone, when he has never an one in his Bladder; or when he is ſent to dreſs a cut Finger, or heal a broken Shin, whip off Peoples Arms, or Legs, without further Deliberation: as a *Phyſitian* in many Caſes, that might be named (I don't ſay, in all) be dabling with their Blood: the latter being as probable a way, for the doing of their Buſineſs, as the former, though ('tis to be confeſſed) not altogether ſo courſe, and paineful; as 'tis the ſame thing in ſome Senſe; whether one be ſmothered to death between Down Pillows, or tortured upon the Wrack; 'tis but a being done to death, either way. And yet there are too many in the World, who are as brisk and flippant at it, as if it were a matter of pure Indifferency in it ſelf, and left to their ſole Power, to inſtitute how far forth it might be conveniently made uſe of, that is to ſay, that it might be lawful only for them to have recourſe thereto; ſo oft as the freak took them on the Head, or they had a Mind to have their own turnes ſerved by it.

And now *Sir*, having thus liberally paraphaſed upon the Preſumptions of my own

moddling. I am in the next place to render an account, what the Opinions of others may have been upon the very ſame Caſe; which when I have faithfully given in, and made ſome brief Inquiries thereupon, it muſt be left to the Deciſion of ſuch as are unconcerned to paſs Sentence upon the Criminate; and declare at whoſe Door eſpecially, the ill Management of the affair ought to be laid; for that there was an Errour committed by ſome body, is not in the leaſt to be ſcrupled at: that being a Conſequence, plainly enough deducible from the acknowledgment of us both; and want of Diſcretion, is a term of the ſmalleſt Denomination, it can poſſibly be reduced to; becauſe upon a full hearing of the matter, as what had been adminiſtred before his coming; examination of of the Pulſe, Urine, and ſuch other like Teſtimonies, neceſſary to be known; we both returned our Opinions freely, and without heſitancy, that we ſaw no reaſon at all, wherefore to make doubt of her Recovery: whereas, the Event falling out quite contrary, upon the immediate change of her Medicines, the Fault (I ſay) muſt be rather his, than mine; becauſe altered by his own appointment, and ſome of them, againſt my likeing; ſo that, if there were ſo good hopes, of her Recovery before his coming, to meddle with her

her : 'tis ſtrongly to be preſumed, ſhe might have continued in the ſame probable way ſtill, had he but kept away ; and this, I take to be, a fair and a honeſt Plea, in order to my own Acquittal ; let others, clear themſelves as they can : I know but one thing, poſſible to be objected againſt it ; which has I confeſs been urged by ſome, in a neighbourly way, who have been pleaſed, to concern themſelves, in the Controverſy : That it is a Quality, not at all to be diſliked of, in a *Phyſitian*, to be making the beſt of another Mans Practice ; neither do I ſay, it is ; only I muſt crave leave, to ſtart a new Query : Whence it ſhould come to paſs, that he, whoſe Life was never at any time remarkable, for either the leaſt ray of Grace, or good Nature, ſhould become thus tranſcendently charitable, all upon the puſh; ſo as to be careful, to remove a Thorn, out of another mans Finger, and place it in his own? I ſhould think an Action of that Nature, to have proceeded much rather from Incogitancy, and want of Foreſight ; (either of which are unpardonable Blemiſhes in ſo great a *Phyſitian*) in regard, when he perceived it begin to prick, and feſter, he was ſo very induſtrous, to have reſtored it back again ; but then 'twas a little too late, I thank him : And though it might have been ſeaſonable enough for his purpoſe

purpoſe, was never a whit for mine; and therefore, I am not at all ingaged, to give my aſſent to it: he, who abſolves at one time, can never condemn at another, for the ſame thing, though he has never ſo great a mind to do it, without running himſelf upon a Contradiction. Poor *Dr. Willis* could not, he knew it well enough, when it ſuited with his own Intereſt; elſe he had never taken the Liberty he did, in playing upon him; though with ſhame enough, conſidering what a Friend he had been to him, he knows where and when, and ſo do others too: and that may be ſufficient, to ſtop the mouth of one, that is not utterly forſaken of all modeſt Principles; but if it ſhould not, and that he ſhould ſtill believe himſelf, to have the Freedom indulged him, of ſaying and unſaying what ever he judges convenient for his own Deſigns, purely, becauſe he has to do with a *Phyſitian*, who has his dwelling in the Country. I could put him in mind of a true Story, by which it might be made to appear, that there has been a time before now, when he and I have been of different Opinions, and that when the truth happened to be of my ſide too; and if it were ſo then, why not as well now; but that I am upon my own Juſtification; and 'tis a Paſſage ſo full of Conviction, ſo pertinent to the Occaſion,

ſion, and ſo exactly fitted to the taking down of a proud Stomack; I ſhould be aſhamed to mention it. It happened ſome Years ſince, that he was ſent into *Cambridgeſhire*, to viſit a Gentleman of a good Family, who lay ſick there; and ſuch a repute had he gained, from *Willis* his Commendations, that as full a Belief, was reſigned up to his unerring Judgement (as they thought) as ſome are wont to allow in Spirituals, to the determinations of the moſt Ghoſtly Father; nor was he leſs willing to aſſume, than they to be impoſed upon; inſomuch, that after a very ſhort ſumming up of the Evidence, and there upon perceiving his Caſe to be wholly deſperate, he bids them neither to flatter, nor deceive themſelves with a vain Expectation of what could never be; for that 'twas as impoſſible for him, to eſcape the fatal ſtroke of approaching Death, as for one upon whom the Plague Tokens had already broke forth; and that what he had foretold them, would as undoubtedly come to paſs, as the ſetting of the Sun that night, or the riſing of it the next morning, or in words to that effect. And as if this had not been, to have made himſelf ridiculous enough, with the ſame falſe confidence he returns home (and as I have been credibly informed) makes Affidavit of the ſame things, in one of the Courts

of

of Judicature in *Weſtminiſter* Hall; though the chief grounds he had for his ſo doing, to the beſt of my Remembrance, was taken from the ſpitting up of ſome ſmall Quantity of Blood, I imagine that might be a Pleurity of the Lungs too: and for ought I know, make ſomething the more on my ſide; for being ſo ſhamefully Wide of the Mark then, as will appear anon; 'tis not unlike, but that the Remembrance of ſo good a Token upon that occaſion, might make him ſomewhat the more poſitive, in preſaging this Lady her Recovery now. There are a ſort of men in the World, that when ever they have been convinced of an Errour on the one hand; think they can never make any tolerable amends for it, but by diametrically croſſing over to the other Extream. If any ſhall ask me, how I came to be ſo well acquainted with the matter? I have only this Anſwer to return them; That the Gentleman his Father and Mother being both my Patients, living at a great Diſtance from their Son, and very much afflicted at the news they had received of his ſad and deplorable Condition, ordered me to make a Journey over to ſee him, and to bring them back word how the caſe ſtood with him; whether when I came, I found him much in the ſame Condition he had obſerved my Patient to be at *Richmond*, that is to ſay;

likely

likely to do very well again; and ſo I inform-ed them at my return from him; who were glad with all their Hearts, to find they had been ſo happily cheated in their Expectations, as the Gentleman himſelf was (you may eaſily believe) who is ſince that time, ſo perfectly well recovered, as that he may in probability live to ſee many wiſer, honeſter, and more healthful men than his Doctor, go before him: and ſo might this Lady too, for ought I know, had ſhe been ſo fortunate, as to fall into the hands of one, who had either underſtood her Diſtemper better, and ſo known what to have given her, or could have been content at leaſt wiſe, to have let her alone with thoſe who did, but this by way of Parentheſis only. The whole of the Preſcription next, to the taking away of ſeven *Ounces* of Blood from her Arm, which has been the matter of ſo long a Debate, was in the Order immediatly following.

℞. *Oyl of Sweet Almonds, newly diſpenſed,* ʒ iij. *White Sugar-Candy* ʒ j. *Let them be mixed well together in a Mortar; and let her lick a ſpoonful thereof every third hour.*

℞. *the common Pectoral Decoction without Hyſop and Scabios* ℔ ij. *Let the Liquors ſtrained out, be clarified by Seteling, then ſtrain*

out

out for good and all; and of that let her take a Draught ever now and then.

℞. *Oyl of Sweet Almonds* ℥ iiij. *Sperma Ceti* ℥ ij. *Mingle them together, and make up an Ointment; with which let her Side be annointed Morning and Evening, putting upon it a Linnen Cloth dipped in the ſame, made pretty hot.*

℞. *Lynſeed Oyl, newly drawn,* ℥ iiij. *Syrup of Maidenhair* ℥ ij. *Let them be mixed together, and let her take half this Night, at the time of her reſt, and the reſidue, either to morrow Night or ſooner if there be Occaſion.*

℞. *Black Cherry Water, Balm Water, Ana* ℥ iiij. *Epidemick Water,* ℥ iij. *Pearled Sugar, a ſufficient Quantity, ſo as to make it moderately ſweet; let her take four, or five ſpoonfuls of it in her fainting Fits.*

I have but one Particular more, amongſt all theſe, to bring my Exceptions againſt directly; which is, that of the Lynſeed Oyl, and that would be too late to offer now; but that they were likewiſe made before his arrival, for a Gentlewoman having moved for it, as a Medicine of ſingular uſe, and now a

Days

Dayes grown into great requeſt, amongſt the Phyſitians of the Town; I made bold to reject it then, as unlikely to prove beneficial to her, becauſe, admitting it to have been adminiſtred to ſuch as were of ſtronger Stomacks, and more able Conſtitutions, ſuch as might be ſuppoſed, upon thoſe Accouuts, the better fitted for induring a nauſeous draught; it could not otherwiſe chooſe, but be a little too naſty, and fulſome for a nice and delicate Lady, eſpecially at ſuch a time, when ſhe had been brought to ſo low an Ebb, as ſcarſely to be able to taſt the moſt pleaſant Cordial Drinks, without vomiting them up again, but two to one is too great Odds to be reſiſted with Modeſty, and the *Dr.* his Opinion jumping ſo exactly with hers, I conceived my ſelf overcome by a Majority of Votes, and thereupon ſubmitted to the Ruggedneſs of the Medicament, though with the ſame reluctancy of Mind, as to ſome other Directions formerly mentioned.

So that you ſee *Sir*, thoſe great Perfectioniſts, as lofty as their Speculations are, and as much as they would make themſelves our Superiours, in the abſtruſeſt and moſt miſterious part of all uſefull Learning, are not ſo deep read neither, but they may have Opinions ſometimes, co-incident with thoſe of the weaker Sex; and ſurely when ever it falls

falls out to be so, the Excellency of their Attainments, upon the Acconnt of which they are so highly valuable, is not to be sought for amongst them, but we are to turn our Eyes to the remaining part of the Prescriptions, and examine well the other Particulars, not yet so fully descanted upon, if we expect to find it any where.

And therefore, Dear *Sir*, do you, whose Experience is greater, and Judgement more deep, be but pleased to put on your cleerest Spectacles, and try what Success you can have in the Attempt, and if you are able to discern what may haply lye concealed from greener Heads; be so courteous as to obliege Mankind with a more full Discovery thereof: If there be any Mines worth digging into, and Depths worth the fathoming, let the World be made acquainted, with what otherwise it is like, for ever to remain Ignorant of; and suffer not I beseech you so advantagious a Piece of Doctrine as this may haply prove to succeeding Generations (especially, in case of desperate Pleurities of the Lungs) to perish together with its Renouned Author, only for want of a Commentator, learned enough, to have explained the true meaning thereof.

I am somewhat the more impertinent in this my Request I confess, because after the strictest

ſtricteſt Search, and moſt narrow Diſquiſition I was able to make into the matter; nothing of that nature appeared ever viſible to my ſhallow Underſtanding, nor could I ever yet be convinced, from what I was able to gather from the beſt of my own Obſervations; but that an *Apothecaries* Apprentice, or *Barbers* Boy, if ere a whit towardly, and who had made but ſo conſiderable a Progreſs in Learning, as to be able to read over *Culpeper* in *Engliſh*, or turn to the Chapter and Section of any ordinary *Receipt Book*, might have played the *Doctor* to every whit as good purpoſe; I write what my own Thoughts are, poſſibly to men of a more refined Intellect, and Solider Judgments, the thing may be apprehended otherwiſe; but I have ever been of the Mind, that the beſt way of giving Approbation in what one does, is by endeavouring to act, ſo as to be the moſt clearly underſtood; and there are no doubt, abundance of People, up and down the World, that are much of the ſame Perſwaſion; and therefore to me 'tis no wonder at all, that ſo many when they come to be caſt upon their Sick Beds, chooſe rather to commit themſelves to the Care of a doting old Woman, or pittiful Emperick, who are known to ſpeak *Non-ſenſe* at every word, than ſuch as are learnedly impertinent, and pretend to

give a wiſe reaſon for ſuch things, as ſcarce any man living can tell what to make of beſides themſelves, becauſe they being convinced of their own wants, and conſcious to themſelves, of engaging in a Province, that does not at all belong unto them, and which others, how ever they are pleaſed to imploy them, are privy to as well as themſelves, may reaſonably ('tis believed) be looked upon, as cautious and timorous men, though they can haply pretend to never another good Quality beſides: whereas ſuch as are puft up with an high Opinion of their own Excellencies, and the greatneſs of their Parts, are apt to be intolerable peeviſh, and humourſome, and conceited in what they undertake, venterous at every thing, but ſcrupelous about nothing; and if they do happen upon a right courſe at firſt, 'tis ſo much the better for thoſe that are to be governed by them; if not, they are to content themſelves with Patience, ſeeing 'tis to no purpoſe to argue and diſpute the matter, with ſuch as are reſolved to go on in their own way; I am not ignorant what the common *Proverb* is, *Who ſo bold as blind Bay-yard*; and yet a ſober man would chooſe much rather to be carried on the back of a blind Horſe, than a mad one, in caſe no better choice could be had, and he that ſhould do ſo, of the two, would

would be in leſs danger of breaking his neck; and though it may be a frequent ſaying, and what is true enough, if taken in a ſound Senſe, that if a man be appointed to die, he were beſt however end his Dayes in following the directions of the Learned, it cannot be denied withal, but that if a man be ſuppoſed to have Learning, which either a Knave, or a Fool has the keeping of (which is a caſe, happening out oftner than many are aware of) it may be as convenient every jot to die under the hands of the unlearned, as with him; and upon Suppoſition, there be any hopes of Life, 'tis not impoſſible, but that he may as ſoon recover too, and perchance with running a far leſs hazard of ſo ſeeing it; the goodneſs of every thing conſiſts purely in its aptitude to the acquiring ſuch an end, and if that fail once, the Denomination loſes its Force, and becomes utterly inſignificant. A man may be ſaid, and that truely enough, to have Learning, which yet may lye ſo far out of the Road he is to travel in, as to do him but little good for all that, and then he were e'ne as good have none at at all, becauſe 'tis no great matter, how little a mans Knowledge ſpeeds, ſo it runs but deep in the right Channel, and he be but skilful in the Art he makes Profeſſion of: we read of one, who confeſſed himſelf, a

meer Bungler at fiddling, to whom none ever denied the reputation of a very good Governour notwithſtanding, becauſe he knew how to make a little City a great one, which was the only thing he ought to have been well verſed in; whereas *Nero*, though an Excellent *Muſitian*, was but a bad *Emperour*, for his Deficiency in that other Point, ſo indiſpenſibly neceſſary to have been underſtood by him. Put caſe, my *Phyſitian* can make his brags of a ſingular dexterity he has, of transferring the Blood of one Maſtiff dog into the Body of another: if this be the means to harden him in the taking away one Drop more than is convenient from mine, wherein am I advantaged by that Bloody Experiment, though he ſhould vaunt himſelf of his having been frequently converſant in the riping up ſuch poor creatures alone. Recount the pleaſant Hiſtories of his graſping their Entrails with his hands, and thruſting his Fingers into their Hearts, whilſt they lay groaning, and panting, and ſtruggling under his knife, (though by the way, I know no Authority, that either he, or any elſe have, to exerciſe any ſuch Cruelties over them; nay, tho they ſhould be the whole Colledge of the *Virtuoſi* themſelves that ſtood by, and encouraged him in what he did) but however, whether they have or not, this I am very ſure of, that

it

it is like to prove ſmall matter of Comfort to any who ſhall be the Patients of ſuch a one, to be ere a whit the more ruggedly dealt withal, when they happen to fall under his hands.

Nay though he ſhould advance a ſtep higher, and proceed to Pride himſelf, in his * having been the Ring-Leader of the Dance, for the putting Forreigners upon the attempting that upon humane Bodies, which he (only becauſe he durſt not) had begun to practice upon Bruit Creatures at home; admitting all he ſays to to be true, as we have no great reaſon to disbelieve him in his Narrative; 'tis a thouſand, Pities I ſay, but that when it came firſt of all to be made trial of, he himſelf like another *Phalaris* ſhould have given handſel to the Experiment; ſo far am I from enveying him, the honour of ſo worthy an Atchievement, as ſome it ſeems (the more malicious they) would have endeavoured to have done; but, though they had (to deal impartially on all hands) me-thinks, our modern, *Menecrates* might have contented himſelf with ſomething leſs than the Aſſumption of Divine Honours, as the Recompence of his matchleſs and indefatigable Induſtry, have brought in the Inditement againſt the Malefactor, under ſome

* *vide Pag. Tractat. de Cord. Fol.* 176.

other Title than that of Sacriledge, and not have preſumed to have compared himſelf to either *Jupiter* or *Æſculapius* for the matter; all which the Alluſion muſt neceſſarily imply, eſpecially, when a Reſemblance nearer home, becauſe taken from Creatures, and thoſe of his own Rank and Quality, might have become him far better; my meaning is ſomewhat of an intermediate Degree between the *Butcher* and the *Canibal*; but if nothing on Earth could have been found bad enough for the purpoſe, rather than ſo vile a Miſcreant ſhould have aſcended up into Heaven upon ſuch an Errand as that, he might with more probablity of ſpeeding, have directed his Courſe towards the Infernal Region, to have taken one from thence, which if he had done, and no other could have ſerved his turn, what thinks he of the Prince of Darkneſs himſelf, who is ſtiled the Enemy of Mankind, and an Accuſer of the Brethren; and then if we do but conſult our Lexicons, we ſhall find διάβολος and μισάνθρωπος to be terms of no ſuch diſtant Signification, but that they may very well be compatible to one and the ſelf ſame Perſon. And he who thorough his Savage Diſpoſition and ſnarling Behaviour towards all men, has moſt deſervedly been entituled to the one

one, may well be ſuppoſed without either Breach of Charity, or ſtreſs of Invention to have the other Appellation caſt him freely into the Bargain.

But when all this is done, and ſo great a Freedom has been indulged to, unleſs it could be made evidently appear, which way this happy Invention conduces to the Promotion of the Practical part of Phyſick; 'twill be hard to render a Reaſon, why ſuch a remorſleſs Wretch ſhould take upon him to abuſe, and undervalue all ſorts of men he meets withal, only for being leſs cruel and barberous than himſelf. As for what concerns the motion of the Blood, in and about the Body of Man, ſo far forth as it conduces any thing to the Advancement of the *Phyſitians* Art; the Diſcovery of that was made, and underſtood ſufficiently by all ſuch as had any the leaſt Pretenſions that way, long before, and if it ſhould not, this emptying it from the Body of one particular Creature to another, contributes ſo little towards it, and is of ſo ſmall avail to that purpoſe, that there is not one in an hundred would have been ſo ſanguinary, as to have fowled their fingers about it, had they been ſure to have gained the utmoſt of Skill was ever yet pretended to; I do not ſay, but that Thouſands could have been contented to have ſtood by

as Spectators when the thing was experimented by another hand; as we see all sorts of People, forward enough to be flocking about the most butcherly Executioner, what time he is most busy about his Employment; when yet it may be, there is scarce one of all that Number, but would abhor the thoughts of being a chief Actor in the Tragidy; insomuch, that the same Answer, which *Helena* returned to *Paris*, when he pretended an Excess of Affection to her Person, above all other men in the World besides, though in somewhat a different Sense, may not unfitly be made use of, upon this Occasion.

Tu non plus sentis, sed plus temerarius audes.
Non tibi plus Cordis, sed minus Oris inest.

'Tis not thy Store of Wit, but want of Grace,
Which makes thee proud o'th Common's Place.

When a Sick Person comes to stand in need of the *Physitians* help, those surely of all others are the most likely to do him good, who may be presumed to sympathize with him the most feelingly in his Afflictions; which how shall they ever be able to do as they

they ought, who by an unneceſſary addicting themſelves to ſo many baſe Butcheries, and repeated Acts of Cruelty, may ſeem not only to have diveſted themſelves of all Bowels of Compaſſion, and tender-heartedneſs one towards another, but as much as in them lies, even of humane Nature it ſelf, that common Baſis, upon which (if any thing) all ſubſequent Acts of Charity are to be Founded.

And here it may be very well worth the taking notice of, that only that ſort of Tradeſmen and no other of the whole Nation, are diſcharged by the Cuſtom, if not common Law of *England*, from giving their Attendances upon Juries, whoſe Profeſſion clearly conſiſts in Blood-ſhed, though the *Calling* be otherwiſe honeſt, and the Men ſerviceable enough to the publick Societies they live amongſt; which was done no doubt meerly out of a Principle of Prudence, and for fear, leſt by being accuſtomed to embrue their hands in Blood, when they had only to do with Beaſts, and had a juſt occaſion for their doing ſo, they might be too inclinable to the like Exerciſe, after they came to debate about the Lives of Men, and had none at all; and for my part, I cannot chooſe but approve of the laudableneſs of the Inſtitution, as believing it to have been founded on the higheſt reaſon

ſon, and am ſtrongly perſwaded, that thoſe who ſhall ſucceed in the Power of making Laws, will never be able to ſee cauſe, wherefore to alter, or aboliſh it, there being no ſuch way of curing an Inconvenience, as by a timely preventing it in its firſt Courſes, and a removal of all ſuch occaſions, as may ſeem to have the leaſt Tendency thereunto.

As there is a Gradation in evil, ſo is there a tranſition and paſſing over as it were, from one kind thereof unto another; we find it is the Character that is given of the good man, to be merciful to his very Beaſt: and the *Proverb* aſſures us, he that has an unfeigned Love for the Maſter, muſt have ſome degree of kindneſs for the Dog: and therefore by the reverſe of the ſame Rule, who ever has arrived to that Pitch of hard-heartedneſs, as not to know how to pitty a poor dumb thing, whom he has lying at his Mercy; yea, is ſo far from it, as ſeemingly to take pleaſure in finding out ways of tormenting it, when he needed not, will ſurely be ſo much leſs compaſſionate to a man, when ever he gets him within his clutches. And therefore, when I am weary of my Life, Id'e ſend for ſuch a one to chooſe, to conſult withal about the ſureſt and moſt likely means to be uſed in order to my Recovery, but not till then. No

more

more would others neither, if they underſtood what it was they went about: 'tis ttue, when a man comes to die by the hand of the common Executioner, and there is no other Expedient to be found out, for the revoking a Sentence, that has been already paſt, then indeed to be backward, in giving a good round Gratuity, for the facilitating ones Paſſage in the way one is appointed to go, ought to be accounted of, neither as a Part of Pollicy or good Husbandry; but to make Preſents to one, who under a pretence of ſaving my Life, ſhall in all Probability go the ready way to take it from me, is an Errour on the other Extream, which though many are too apt to run into, yet, few or none wiling to be convinced thereof (it's like) by ſuch as would be ſo much their Friends, as to be at the pains to undeceive them; and therefore, when ever ſuch ſhall come to ſuffer upon that Account, as a great many have already done, as they have none to thank for it beſides themſelves; ſo is it no great matter, whether or no they ſhall ever meet with any, that ſhall be ſo charitable, as to afford them any great ſtore of their Pitties. I muſt confeſs, 'twould ſeem a pretty thing at firſt glimpſe, and does I believe to many, ſuch eſpecially, as are apt to take what ever they hear upon truſt, and never make any further

ther enquiry about it. To have a man dogmatical and pert at maintaining every Position he layes down at any time by way of Scheam, and Diagram and fetch all the Proofs he makes use of, from no other Topicks, than those of his own Solitary Experiments, Observations, and Ocular Inspections, which is a course, some have taken of late Year, to purchase to themselves a Reputation for Knowing Men, and very successful they have been in it, whereby, others who have taken notice of the good luck they have had in such their Endeavours, have been animated to do the like; and thereupon encouraged not only to obtrude their own wild Fancies, and groundless Chimeres upon the World, singly by themselves, but to confute one whimsical Opinion with another full out as vain, and then to be as grave and serious, when they have been doing so, as if so be they were all the while in earnest, and upon the prosecution of some real and worthy Design. Whereas indeed and in truth, were the matter but duely weighed, and looked into as it ought, amongst all the several sorts of shameless and phantastick non-sense, we shall meet withal any where, there is none would appear to have been at any time more abusively such, nor yet vaunted after a more absurd, and ridiculous manner. There is a little

Book

Book intituled, *Tractatus de Corde*, ſtuffed from the Beginning to the end, with little elſe beſides Arguments of that kind; 'twould be an Infinite Labour to enumerate them all: I'll only give Inſtance in one of the firſt, as a *Specimen* of thoſe which follow, and according to the Eſtimation taken from thence, may the others reaſonably be gueſſed at.

In Men and ſuch Creatures, as receive their Nouriſhment from Fleſh (ſays that renowned Author) *Itaque homini, & Carnivoris fere quibuſque Animalibus, Cordis ſedes non in Centro, ſed in ſuperiore Corporis parte conſtituta eſt*, &c. vide Pag. Tractat. de Corde, Fol. 2. The Poſition of the Heart is never found exactly ſeated in the very Center of the Body, but rather ſomewhat above it, to the intent, it might diſpoſe of what Blood ſhould be convenient to be ſent up to the Head, ſo much the more eaſily; for ſeeing that the forcing up, and Diſtribution of the Blood, depends altogether upon the Contraction of the heart and the Liquid Subſtance thereof, is not of its own Nature ſo freely carried upwards, as to the Parts directly Oppoſite, or which are placed beneath it. In caſe the Scituation of the Heart, had been further from the Head, it could not have been poſſible, but that that muſt have been more compactly framed, ſo as to have ſent it up thither with a greater

Force

Force, or elſe the Head would ſometime or other have wanted Blood for its own Support. *Fieri non poſſet quin aut ipſum robuſtius formatum*, &c. muſt have been juſt ſo. Bold audacious man, as if ſo be the Almighty could poſſibly have contrived no other ways for the bringing his own Works to perfection, but what were exactly underſtood by him; or that by his diſſecting of Hearts, and the Obſervations made thereupon, he had arrived to ſuch a Degree of anatomical Experience, as to be able to view Knowledge in that particular, with the very Searcher of Hearts himſelf: 'tis ſuch a proud kind of Expreſſion, as one ſhall ſeldom, or never hear from a Chriſtian man, had the thing been never ſo certain, much leſs in a matter abſolutely falſe and ridiculous, as will appear in the further Examination of it; as I do not ſee wherein *Menocrates* his ὁ ξεὼς, though a *Heathen*, and for which he was accounted bereft of his wits, can ſtand chargeable of greater Arrogance. But to proceed; *In Animalibus autem qua longiori Collo, & quaſi ad victum porrecto donantur*, &c. But as for ſuch Creatures as have longer Necks than uſual, which are the Inſtruments with which they find their Hearts are as far diſtant from their Heads, as any of the reſt of the Parts of their Body

Body beſides, and that without any thing of Dammage to them at all, becauſe, for the moſt part, they ſuck their Food with their Heads hanging downwards, ſo that though the Blood may have farther to paſs in them, than in ſome other Creatures; yet it is a convenience of a much plainer, and far more eaſy diſcent.

Whether this conceit be his own or not, is foreign to my enquiry, and but the ſame thing to him neither, becauſe if it be not his own, he thereby diſcovers the wretchedneſs of his Judgement in eſpouſing it, as not having wit enough to diſcern where to pilfer with the greateſt ſafety, in collecting matter, for his little Treatiſe: if it be the wretchedneſs of his Fancy, for lighting on no better; however, I for my part have no reaſon, but to ſuppoſe it to be his, becauſe he is ſo willing to have it thought ſo, and therefore, I ſhall crave leave to demand of him, after what other way and manner, he would have either them, or any other Creature elſe, to feed themſelves (ſome very few only excepted) then by hanging down of their heads, though not for the ſimple reaſon alleadged by him, to wit, that the Blood might by that means, ſo much the more freely paſs into their heads; but becauſe their Eyes, which were their Inſtruments of ſeeing,

were

were placed there, which ſurely is ſomewhat more than his were, when he treated upon that Argument, he would never elſe have blundered ſo egregiouſly at his firſt ſetting out if he had.

And that may paſs very well for one final Cauſe, and another ſomwhat like to that may be, becauſe their Mouthes, which are their Inſtruments of Eating, are placed ſomewhat thereabouts to : And there being a neceſſity for the Nouriſhment firſt to be taken in at the Mouth, before it can come at the Neck or Stomack, to be diſperſed up and down the Body, for the Suſtentation of each Member: 'Tis pretty clear, that all Creatures almoſt, that are debarred from feeding on Fleſh, will be conſtrained, either to reach it from the Surface of the Earth, or fiſh for it in the Waters, becauſe they muſt ſeek for it ſome where or other, where it is to be found; and then if they cannot bring their Food to their Mouths, muſt be glad to bend their Mouths and their Necks too, whether they be long or ſhort, down to their Food, unleſs they can be content to be famiſhed to death for want of it.

Beſides, the reaſon thereof can never poſſibly be that alledged by him here, upon other far different Accounts, becauſe if he be well Remembred

membered, he teaches us elſe where, Pag. 133 (or if he had not, it would have been no very hard matter, to have informed our ſelves) that the motion of the Blood in 'its full latitude, depends originally upon the Arteries, and is driven by their pulſation even from firſt to laſt.

Cum enim certiſſimum ſit, Sanguinis Venoſi refluxum, non ab attractione Cordis ulla, ſed a propulſu arterioſi Sanguinis provenire, facile eſt concipere, quantum partium quoque ſitus ad facilitandum, aut retardandum hunc motum conferat. Veluti enim in homine, cum in Pedes erigitur, Sanguis a Venis Jugularibus, & Vena Cava deſcendente, citius & facilius ſuo quaſi pondere in Cordis Sinus delabitur (ſimili modo atque Venæ in Manu elevata mox vacuæ, in demiſſa vero turgidæ & plenæ cernuntur) qui vero eſt in Partibus inferioribus, & Vena Cava aſcendente difficilius, & contra Naturam ſuam, ſolum ab arterioſo Sanguine verſus Cor propellitur, & Vi quadam urgetur, in planum autem jacente Corpore Sanguis æque facile ab utriſque redit.

For ſeeing it is moſt certain, that the flowing back of the Venal Blood, does not at all depend upon the Attraction of the Heart, but rather upon the Succeſſion and coming on of the Arterial blood; 'tis eaſy to apprehend

how much the ſituation of the parts conduces either to the facilitating or retarding of that Motion; as in caſe of a Mans ſtanding upright upon his feet, the Blood tumbles down with a much freer Courſe, and more natural propenſity from the Jugular, and hollow Vein deſcending into the Ventricles of the Heart, as we may ſee by a hand lifted up, the Veins art ſoon emptied, but in the ſame let down again, as ſoon ſwoln and full; whereas that which is beneath the Heart, and returnes by the Way of the hollow Vein aſcending, is wrought up with much greater Difficulty, as being againſt Nature, and only by the forceing on of the Arterial Blood, but when the Body lies ſtretched upon a Level, the Blood then is reconveyed from either part alike.

By which words, it plainly enough appears, that nothing with a long Neck, can ever be put in any great danger of having a Bloodleſs Head, any more than a body ſet upon a long pair of Legs (a witleſs one indeed, ſome with a ſhort one may, eſpecially, whileſt they argue no better to the purpoſe about that Subject) becauſe if there were need of ſo ſtrong a Spring to jerk it up to the Head that ſtood perched upon the long Neck, by the very ſame reaſon, there would no leſs Force be required for the ſending it up

up the lower Limbs of that Body which had the long Legs belonging to it. And therefore as ſome in railery are wont to ſet the Haires Head againſt the Gooſe Giblets, ſo may we upon very good grounds, oppoſe the long Legs to the long Neck, becauſe, there is the ſame reaſon for the one, that there is for the other, neither greater nor leſs; for as the Blood mounts the Head with Difficulty, ſo it ſlides down again with eaſe, and on the contrary, as it falls into the Feet of it's own accord, it muſt be forced back again to the Heart with ſo much the greater Labour, it will never arrive thither elſe, becauſe conveyed back not at all by the atraction of the Heart, but by the forceing on of the Arterial Blood, *Cum certiſſimum ſit Sanguinis Venoſi refluxum non ab attractione Cordis ulla, ſed a propulſu Arterioſi Sanguinis provenire.* And then if there be ſuch a neceſſity for the making the heart more compact for the ſake of the long Neck, why not as well upon the account of the long Legs, in regard the *Arteria magna aſcendens & deſcendens*, both receive their Original from the ſame Stock, and conſequently ſtand in need of equal Aſſiſtance for the performance of the Offices unto which they have been each of them appointed? And as that Party, who is to travel a Hill juſt backward and forward, and no more, is at

an Indifferency as to the whole of the journey he undertakes, whether he be to begin at the bottom or the top firſt. So 'tis all one, whether the Blood, when it be to leave the Heart *cæteris Paribus*, fall downwards into the Feet, or aſcend upwards into the Head, Provided its Paſſage be looked upon as not compleated, till it return to the ſame part again; unleſs we will ſay, that he who commences his Journey at the bottom of the Hill, is conſtrained to encounter with the greateſt hardſhip of all at the firſt part of his way, which is to be recompenſed by a proportionable Alleviation at his coming down again, whereas he that takes the contrary Courſe, has only the advantage of the moſt pleaſant part of his Journey at his firſt ſetting out, and the worſt at laſt; which amounts upon a true caſting up, to juſt nothing at all.

'Tis not to be denied, but the Blood does paſs with a great deal more difficulty from the Heart to the Head, than from the ſame place to the capillary Arteries of the Feet, but then if it be conſidered, how ſteep the aſcent from the Feet to the Heart is back again, and contrarily, how natural the retreat from the Head is to the ſame Region of the Heart, after it has once gained the vertical Point; there will be no better way, of adjuſting the Calculation, than by ſetting one againſt t'other;

ther: and then this ſeemingly learned Diſcourſe wil be reſolved into a Parcel of pure ſelf-Contradiction, and the great Anatomiſt convicted to have written he knew not what, in the matters appertaining to his own Art. I have heard indeed of long billed Brids, that would be apt ſometimes to bewray their own Neſts; but never before, of any with long Necks, that unleſs they ſtooped oftentimes would be in danger of the Staggers.

Beſides the Aſſertion is manifeſtly untrue in Practice; there is no ſuch thing in Nature, as that long necked Creatures ſhould be any more obliged to ſtoop down with their Heads and Necks, than others are; and thoſe that will but take notice, ſhall obſerve the Swans, to ſwim along with as erected Necks, as either the *Teale* or the *Dab-Chick*; and if I miſtake not, to be diving with them as ſeldom, and tho a *Horſe* has a much longer Neck than a *Bull*, I don't ſee he carries his Head ere a whit the leſs ſtately for all that, but rather the contrary, and if he can but be allowed an able Rider to manage him, may be prevailed withal to hold it ſo from Morning till Night; which had the other Poſture been altogether ſo neceſſary as is pretended, would ſcarcely have been poſſible; beſides one would much wonder, that the great Horſe-Maſters, who have ſpent ſo

much of their time, and hard ſtudy about ſuch niceties; ſhould none of them have been *Anatomiſts* enough to have underſtood ſo much before; and that the *Grooms* and *Oſtlers*, who have evermore profeſſed ſuch great kindneſs to *Horſes*, ſhould be ſuch wicked Knaves, as to delight in tormenting them thus cruelly, when they needed not, by cauſeing their Racks and Mangers to be ſet at ſuch an unreaſonable Height, and forceing them to do Penance in a manner for every morſel of Hay they eat. And yet the greateſt wonder of all is ſtill behind, whence it ſhould come to paſs, that the *Horſes* that are kept at home, and have all this Injury done them, ſhould look ſo much fatter and fairer, and be ſo much fitter for Service, then thoſe that are turned to graſs all the Year about, and permitted to feed themſelves after their own way with their Heads hanging down, and their Blood by that means, freely taking that Courſe which Nature had appointed it. But to be ſerious, though they ſhould hold down their Heads longer than others, to make the utmoſt conceſſion Imaginable, that could never do neither; And unleſs they were ſuppoſed to keep them in that Poſition for a Conſtancy, there muſt be ſome wiſer reaſon ſought out for, then what is taken from the more eaſy conveyance of the Blood thi-

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ther; becauſe otherwiſe their poor Heads would be in a Bloodleſs Condition;however, there needs no other Argument to prove the Conſequence, than what ſhall be taken from the ſame Author his own words in another place of the ſame learned Treatiſe, for if we look forward to the 156. Page. and ſo on,we are informed that a Quantity of Blood equal to the whole Maſs,paſſes through the Ventricles of every Mans Heart, at leſt ſix times in an Hour;and how that the ſame Proportion is likewiſe to be obſerved in all other Creatures. *Atque ita ſe habet in omnibus Animalibus*, &c. So that if one half of the Blood, or but neer ſo much, be to be diſpoſed of by the upper Branch of the *Aorta*,as there is no queſtion to be made, but that it is; if theſe long Necked Creatures he mentions, ſhould chance to forget themſelves never ſo little, and forbear holding down their Heads but one Minute of an hour; what an unequal Diſtribution thereof, muſt neceſſarily enſue upon it,and how would all the faculties of the ſuperiour Region of the Body be at a loſs for want of Spirits to act withal, by reaſon of the Head its being in ſo great a meaſure disfurniſhed of them, according to this *Hypotheſis*? And yet we ſee they do forbear for a great deal *longer time*, and that frequently too, without any the leaſt ſhew of Prejudice

or Inconvenience to them at all; which is a manifeſt Indication of the Author his being miſtaken, in the Doctrine he delivers, as he is indeed in almoſt every thing he any where treats about; inſomuch, that ſetting aſide the *Dele totum* at the Begining, which he is pleaſed to place amongſt the *Erratas*, (though others, full as knowing as himſelf, are of opinion they deſerve much better, and to be reputedof as the onely piece of wholſom Advice, that is to be found in the whole Book) there are ſcarce two words coming together, that may not upon very good reaſons be found fault withal; but what is that to me, if it ſhould be ſo; who am only concerned to look to my ſelf, and make good my own Station? 'Tis no ſuch delightfull Recreation to me to be buſying my ſelf about other mens matters, and calling them to an accouut for what they have done; could I have been permited to have enjoyed my own quiet, and lived free from Moleſtation at home, I ſhould have been ſparing enough of giving them the leaſt Diſturbance in any of their Fooleries, let them have been never ſo many, or never ſo egregious. And now I have been put upon it contrary to mine own Inclinations; ſo little deſirous am I of ſeeking after advantages of that kind, that I am herrtily ſorry for the Occaſion offered me of

ſaying

ſaying ſo much as I have; tho in the greateſt plenty of argument. As I have been all along hitherto upon the defenſive part, ſo I deſire to hold on ſtill. And if I can but ward off my Adverſaries Blow, and hinder him from doing me the Miſchif he deſigns, ſhall never be at all ſolicitous about the following of my own, to the incommoding of him though I had it never ſo much in my power to do ſo; becauſe 'tis the clearing up of my own Reputation, as it falls in with the General Deſign ſo often intimated; and not the diſparagement of his that I have a reſpect unto; and if that might have been effected by a direct Courſe; as there would have been little need of caſting Perſonal reflections upon any man, ſo ſhould it never have been offered at by me. 'Tis true, I could have deciphered ſome Body plainly enough to be underſtood, who has been exceeding fortunate at ſetting up with a borowed ingenuity, when he has had but a very inconſiderable Stock to have made a Beginning withall of his own, made vaſt improvements of the precarious *comendations* beſtowed on him by ſome great ones who have been charitably diſpoſed, and having bin related to a numerous ſociety of Men evermore good at crying

* See Mr. Fr. Potter *his Letter to I. A.* Eſquire, *of the Middle* Temple, *written in the Year* 52. *By which, is made to appear, who was the firſt Inventer of the trausfuſion of the Blood He uſed to ſay, it came into his Mind by reflecting on the Story of* Medea and Jaſon.

crying up a few of their own Members for tranſcendent in each particular Faculty, whither happening to deſerve it or not. And though I am pretty well aſſured, there is not any thing can be more taking with the Vulgar, than to be ſhewed a Maſter Wit in his own conceit, turning Maſter Fool at laſt, in the Opinion of all others beſides himſelf: and that Multitudes of ſimple People, who have ſuffered themſelves to be deluded, by the falſe Appearances, and idle Pretences of the ſame Perſon's imaginary clerkſhip, could like it well enough to be rectified in their Judgements, by receiving ſome better Information concerning him; yet for me he is like to ſtand in the ſame fair Opinion with them he alwayes did; not only becauſe it looks ſo unhandſomly, and makes ſo harſh a Diſcord, to be ſaying all the Ill one can of a Perſon, from whom one has ſometimes heard Ill, but becauſe of the Advantage that is given againſt the Truth thereby: to ſuch whoſe Aſſent is more truely valuable: by ſideing with it ſo unſeaſonably. Recriminations we all know to be none of the beſt means of defending a Cauſe by, ſo far indeed from gaining the party who makes uſe of them, any acquittal from the Fault he ſtands charged with, that they rather make one, where there was none before; at leaſtwiſe, bring ſuch an one under a ſtrong Preſumption

ſumption of being thought guilty, who otherwiſe might have paſſed for Innocent. But yet as Commendations, violently extorted from a mans own Mouth, when wrongfully accuſed, are wont, amongſt equal Judges, to meet with ſomewhat a more favourable cenſure, then to be looked upon under the ſtrict Formality of ſelf praiſing; ſo on the other hand, it may well be hoped, that they who have deſired to live in Peace, and could not obtain it: when they come to be injuriouſly dealt withall, and hardly ſpoken againſt without Cauſe, may be allowed the Previledge of making their Apology after the beſt (not to ſay only) manner they can; and then if they do now and then reflect upon their Adverſaries Infirmities, when it could not be otherwiſe avoided (provided it be done with Truth and Soberneſs, not ſo much out of Anger and by way of Retaliation; as in order to the Invalidating the malicious Suggeſtions they find have been whiſpered againſt themſelves; or for the prevention of publick Wrongs and Inconveniences, that in all Probability, without ſome ſuch Courſe taken, might have been offered to others) deſerve ſomething of a conivance, at leaſtwiſe, if not to be held abſolutely excuſed; as for my own part, it cannot be denied, but that I have now and then let fall ſome ſharpiſh ex-

preſſion

preſſions againſt a Perſon of Eminency enough in his own profeſſion; for if no Body had been intended thereby, it had been a pouring out wotds to no purpoſe, and an aiming them at Random; but then I conſidered with my ſelf, before I did ſo, how he came by it firſt of all, and what excellent good uſes, he has made of it ever ſince, and does dayly; what ſort of People his cheif admirers are and have been, and how they likewiſe came to be ſo, and by what meanes and artifices they have been continued in their Belief: and the thorough Apprehenſion of theſe things, made me I confeſs, ſomewhat the more bold, than otherwiſe I ſhould have been.

I abhor the thoughtsof deſigning any thing of prejudice either to a good Man, or a good Mans Friend; and as I am not under any obligation of ſaying all the ill I can of ſuch as are neither, ſo am I not whollyto keek ſilence upon a juſt Provocation offred. There may very well be a diſtinction made between the Man and his Baſeneſs, and a Charity preſerved for the one, and yet none at all for the other. Not that I am forgetfulwhere I have declared the chief Motives prevailing with me to engage in what I have done, to be taken from the conſideration of more Publick concerns than any thing relatingto my ſelf, and ſo theywere

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And yet that ought to be no hinderance to me in the aſſerting of my own Juſt Rights ; Or treating about other Particular Matters in time and place convenient. Becauſe theſe are things implying nothing at all of contrariety but oft time, a great deal of Agreement with, and ſometimes Subordination to one another. And 'tis not impoſſible but that an Example may be ſingle and multiplied at the ſame time, only by a different manner of apprehending it. So that what's Acted by one Man, may be approved of by one hundred ; and the others wanted but an Opportunity for the doing of the ſame things. And therefore I could wiſh with all my heart, as it has been the drift of what I have propounded to my ſelf from firſt to laſt, that when ever the Deſcription of any Mans actions or Demeanour ſhall have occurred in any former Paſſages of mine, including any thing of ingratefulneſs in them ; as 'tis impoſſible but that if an ill thing be Acted, it muſt be Acted by ſome body, it may however be underſtood in an abſtracted ſenſe ; and by the help of the Intellect ſtil reduced to ſome ſuch Order of Men whoſe either Folly or Naughtineſs may beſt Intitle them to ſuch a Charracter ; and that will ſave me the trouble of heaping together multitudes of Examples for the Confirmation of what I have been all this while endeavouring

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ing to make good. Only one Inſtance more of my one knowledge, ſince the acting of what has been ſo largely related, comes in ſo patly to my purpoſe, that it muſt and will, whether I will or no, be a little taken notice of. I'le ſumme it up in a word or two, and then conclude.

A moſt Ingenious, and learned Gentleman (and if ſuch can be impoſed upon, what are we to believe of others) and one that I have had ſeveral times under my hands upon the account of the ſelf ſame ſort of Diſtemper, was taken ſuddenly ill of a *Flatulency* in his *Hypocondria* and *Bowels*; the Illneſs was apparently ſubdued, as it had been oft-times before and that with much the ſame kinds of Remedies; and all the Aſſurances given ſo far forth as humane foreſight would extend to, of a Speedy Recovery, without the leaſt grounds or fear of any poſſible Danger. And yet upon the arrival of a *London Phyſitian*, blooded he muſt needs be, nothing would ſerve his turn without it, which before he could obtain, he was forced to beg and entreat hard for: I am aſhamed to ſay how long time together, & rather than have none at all, he would be contented with a very little Quantity, ſome two Ounces, or thereabouts; and leaſt he ſhould miſs of that ſmal Pittance too, was glad to take it away with his own hands.

Many

Many ſilly reaſons were pretended upon the ſcore of the *Scurvey*, *Jaundice*, and *Sharpneſs of Humours*, and the like; but the Principle, and the only true one, never ſo much as mentioned at all. To wit that no other, after that had been done, might be capable of putting in for a ſhare of the Cure beſides himſelf: all little and inferior Remedies, being as it were loſt, and ſwallowed up in the great one; and being once able to ſay, he had fetched Blood of his Patient, away he went immediately with a great deal of Complacency and Satisfaction.

Sir. I beg your Pardon for the tediouſneſs of this Addreſs, and making uſe of a Caſe you have been ſo nearly concerned in; as likewiſe for the publiſhing of both, without either your Knowledge or Order. As to what relates to others, I have made my Apology elſe where, and therefore, there will be the leſs need of ſaying much now in this place. The Office of an *Informer* was a thing I never much delighted in, and all ſuch as know me aright, will I believe bear me witnes as to the truth of that Particular; I am Conſcious of too many failings of my own to be over cenſorious of other Mens; and as for Peaceableneſs of Demeanor, I don't know that ever I began a Quarrel with any Man in my whole Life; of all the Phyſitians that

ever

ever lived in *England*; I dare ſay, few ever were worſe uſed by *Empericks*, and *Quakſalvers*, and thoſe of the vileſt, and moſt deſpicable ſort if any of them can be ſaid to be more ſuch than others, then I have been: and yet I cannot call to remembrance, that I have had my Paſſions at any time very much tranſported beyond the Bounds of Moderation; and therefore ſurely, I have litle reaſon to countenance ſuch men, to the depreſſing of honeſt and able *Phyſitians*; neither have I at any time, if my words may be conſtrued in their true Gramatical Senſe; and thoſe who Judge of them otherwiſe, may pervert any mans honeſt Intentions as well as mine, and ſo are little to be regarded.

Such as pretend to be of a Profeſſion, they know nothing of, and were never in the leaſt fitted for, may be, and doubtleſs are exceeding bad men; but thoſe that degenerate from the honeſt Principles belonging to their own are a great deal worſe. And that's the utmoſt my words can amount to, taken in the moſt rigorous Acceptation imaginable. There are *Conciones ad clerum* as well as *ad Populum*; and if *Divines* may be allowed to ſpeak againſt *Divines*, and tell them of their Faults when they do amiſs out of the Pulpit, why may not the Members of other Faculties be allowed to imitate them upon a like Occaſion?

I confeſs, the graveſt and wiſeſt Perſons are the beſt qualified for the performance of ſuch an Office. But if they out of prudentiall conſiderations, beſt known to themſelves, ſhall think good not to be ſeen therein, rather, than to have it wholly omitted; I for my part ſee no reaſon to the contrary, but why it may be done by others.

Not that I am altogether ignorant what are the uſual conſequences attending upon publick Reproofs. And how tickliſh a thing it is to be dabling in a ſore place, not inferiour for tenderneſs to the Apple of an Eye. I expect no other than to be called to a ſevere account for what I have written, and am as ready to give it, provided my Auditor prove to be ſober and ingenuous. But if a Sot or a Buffoon ſhall take upon him to be Pragmatical, tho I think I may be bound in conſcience to pitty ſuch a one for his folly, or rudeneſs, and it be for no other reaſon than out of a conſideration of humane Infirmity, yet do not look upon my ſelf to ſtand obliged, by that, or any other tye whatever, to make any Reply to him in either, be his Language never ſo mouthy or never ſo provoking.

Sir, I am,
Your very humble
Servant, R. G.

ADVERTISEMENT.

The Author not being at leisure to wait in Town dureing the time of this Impression, several gross Mistakes have arisen through the Printers Inadvertency, *which the Reader is desired to correct, according to the Amendments following.*

MVSEVM BRITANNICVM

Epistle. *for* many lyeie read *made liable. for* insureing, *injuring. for* formable, *savourable. for* whistle, *relish it. for* that so great, *what so great. for* good would, *good will would. for* the compensation, *a compensation. for* was for ought, *may for ought. for* they'd ne're, *they'l ne're. for* offered, *as* admitting, *offered admitting.*

Page 3 lin. 26 dele *was.* p. 4 l. 5 read *sane memory.* p. 4 l. 11 *undermining.* p. 6 l. 29 *pack.* p. 9 l. 5 *his wise.* p. 9 l. 29 *or is willing upon reasons.* p. 11 l. 13 *if he be bent.* p. 11 l. 23 *that cools.* p. 15 l. 7 *smatched.* 15 *when.* p. 17 l. 12 *thwarting.* p. 19. l. 21 *Dilemma.* p. 21 l. 17 *shall we.* p. 27. *of the issuing.* p. 31 l. 18 *of all others.* p. 32 l. 2 *thing.* l. 4 dele *in.* l. 23 *e'ne just.* p. 36 l. 8 *determine.* p. 38 l. 16 *reserate.* p. 39 l. 13 *or alike.* p. 40 l. 10 *possibly.* p. 41 l. 28 *to our.* p. 44 l. 8 *less.* l. 25 *from them.* p. 45. l. 19 *chose.* p. 46 l. 28 *cause or.* p. 64. l. 25 *duodenum.* p. 67. l. 23 *ceti* p. 85 l. 22 *stave's of.* p. 94. l. 3 *'tis general.* p. 107 l. 13 dele *no sooner.* p. 130 l. 12 *times.* p. 131 *some measure.* p. 132 l. 23 *digesting.* p. 133 l. 24 *Cambium.* p. 134 l. 31 *emaciated.* p. 138 l. 16. *Supports.* p. 140 l. 16 *hold.* p. 141 l. 25 *whole can be supposed.* l. 27 *Constitutive.* p. 142 l. 22 *Heat.* p. 145 l. 14 *Reason.* l. 17 *Contingencies.* p. 146 l. 4 *possibly.* l. 14. *Coutrivance.* p. 147 l. 2 *Effusions.* l. 27 *full out.* p. 148 l. 6 *no, the direct.* l. 25 *avoiding a Vacuity.* p. 154 l. 19 *where one must be.* p. 249 l. 14 *Effect.* l. 26 *that it is so.* p. 152 l. 6 *knew.* p. 153 l. 23 *enumeration.* p. 158 l. 17 *hear.* p. 159 l. 21 *imaginable.* p. 160 l. 6 *Fractions.* l. 14 *amongst us.* l. 18 *diminution.* l. 30 *Effects.* p. 161 l. 15 *into.* p. 165 l. 15 *Allowed* l. 17 *alleaged.* p. 167 l. 6 *sent for.* p. 167 l. 3 *Prescriptions.* p. 168 l. 7 *Criminal.* p. 169 l. 4 *An.* p. 176 l. 30 *importunate.* p. 177 l. 10 *Gaining.* p. 179 l. 16 *loosing it.* l 27 *spreads.* p. 180 l. 18 *alive.* p. 181 l. 11 dele *fol.* p. 182 l. 24 μισάνθρωπος. p. 183 l. 2 *streine.* p. 184. l. 18 *a* ---- *after common.* p. 186 l. 6. *causes.* p. 188 l. 8 *Years.* 16 *Chimera's.* l. 29 *vented.* p. 189 l. 14 dele *fol.* p. 190 l. 20 ζεύς 24 *quæ.* 28 *feed.* p. 191 l. 7 *conveiance.* p. 201 l. 30 *See* Fr. Potter *his Letter to* I.A. *now kept by the R. Society.*

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